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1985 Annual Report

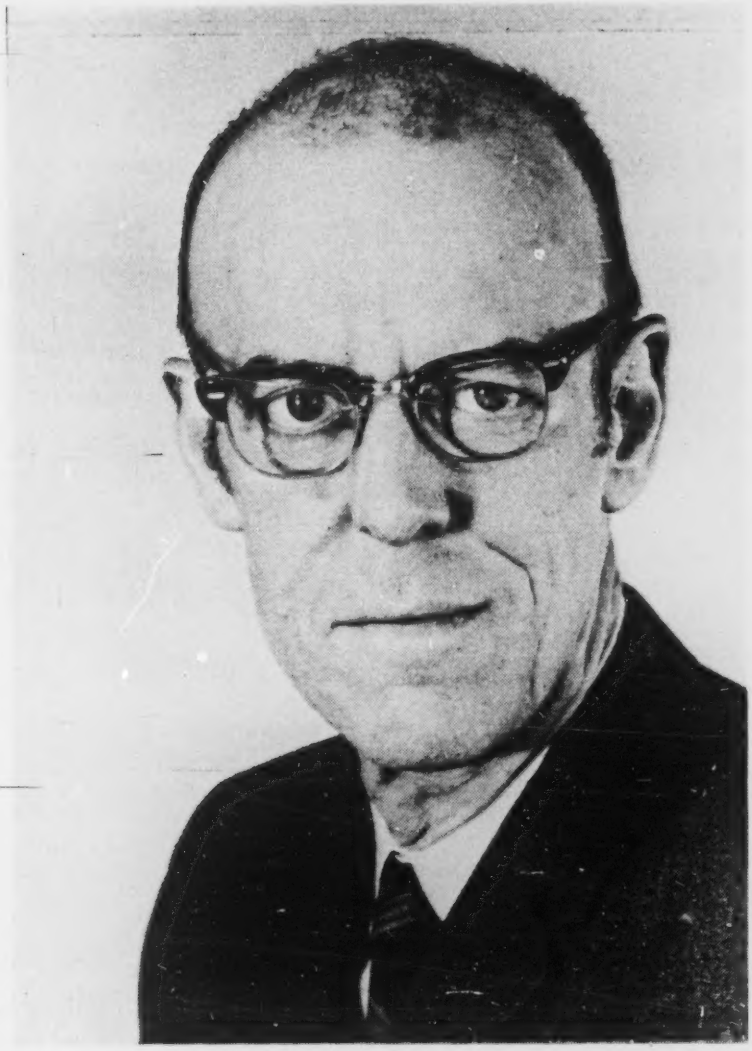
Alaska Court System

This year's annual report cover is a photograph of the 15-foot Thunderbird-Killerwhale totem pole located in the lobby of the Anchorage courthouse. The pole was carved by craftsmen of Alaska Indian Arts, Inc., located in Haines, Alaska.

According to legend, when the land bridge between Russia and Alaska flooded out, the early native people took to canoes to seek a new land. At first they followed the Thunderbird, a "black eagle" that made thunder and lightening with his wings as he flew in the night. When the people lost sight of the Thunderbird in a thick fog, a mystic figure named "Gunarah" riding on the back of a killerwhale, led the people to a valley near Wrangell.

The top figure on the pole is the Thunderbird. The killerwhale is on the bottom with the "Gunarah" on its back in the fin area.

Frank Flavin Photographer



In Memoriam

THE HONORABLE JOHN H. DIMOND
Senior Justice
Supreme Court of the State of Alaska
1918 - 1985

THE HONORABLE JOHN H. DIMOND

John Henry Dimond, son of Anthony J. Dimond and Dorothea Frances Miller, was born in Valdez, Alaska in 1918. He spent his early years in Valdez, but moved to Washington, D.C. in 1933 when his father was elected to serve as Alaska's territorial delegate to the United States Congress.

He attended Catholic University of America from 1937 to 1941 and received a Bachelor of Science degree in applied chemistry. When war was declared, he enlisted in the Army. He served in active combat in the Pacific and was severely wounded. He received a silver star for "gallantry in action" at Bougainville, Solomon Islands. He returned to combat, participating in campaigns at Leyte and Cebu in the Phillippines, receiving the bronze star for "meritorious service" after the Cebu campaign.

On January 11, 1946, John Dimond married Roberta "Bobbie" Dooley, and the couple moved to Washington, D.C., where he enrolled in law school at Catholic University of America. After obtaining his law degree, John and Bobbie Dimond returned to Alaska. John Dimond served as an assistant attorney general from 1949 to 1952. He then practiced law in Juneau until 1959, when Governor William Egan chose him to be one of the three original appointees to the new Alaska Supreme Court. That first court consisted of Dimond, Walter Hodge and Buell A. Nesbitt. It was their job to build an entire court system for the new state.

Justice Dimond served on the supreme court from 1959 to 1971. He authored the first opinion handed down by the new court. He played an important role in the evolvement of case law for Alaska. In 1971 Justice Dimond resigned from the bench because of ill health. In 1973 he returned to the court as a justice pro tem. He served in that capacity until his death.

Justice Dimond evidenced great wisdom, courage and an unwavering sense of justice in all his work. He loved the law and his desire to remain active in it accounts for his many years of pro tem service. An unassuming man, a gentle man, and truly a gentleman, Justice Dimond leaves to Alaskans an honorable legacy.

Alaska Court System

State of Alaska

ARTHUR H. SNOWDEN II
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

303 "K" STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
99501

(907) 274-8611

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

In FY 1985 we have continued our efforts to streamline the judicial process so that justice services can be provided more efficiently and economically. As we face years of declining state revenues, we recognize our responsibility as a state agency to search for new and innovative ways to conserve resources while maintaining adequate levels of services. This year's annual report features a special report on "Technology and the Courts" which describes some of the ways the court system is exploring the use of new technology to achieve these aims.

As caseloads continue to increase and litigation continues to become more complex, the Alaska Court System will strive to serve the needs of Alaska in the years ahead.

Arthur H. Snowden, II
Administrative Director

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Profile

PROFILE OF THE ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

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ALASKA COURT SYSTEM FACT SHEET

(Information as of June 30, 1985)

FISCAL YEAR: July 1 - June 30

Geographical area served: 566,000 square miles

Number of judges:
- 5 supreme court justices
- 3 court of appeals judges
- 29 superior court judges
- 16 district court judges

Number of court locations:
- 15 superior and district court locations
- 44 district courts only (judge and/or magistrate)

Total number of permanent full-time court employees: 594

5 largest trial courts (by number of permanent full-time employees):

Anchorage:	211
Fairbanks:	83
Juneau:	22
Ketchikan:	17
Kenai:	15

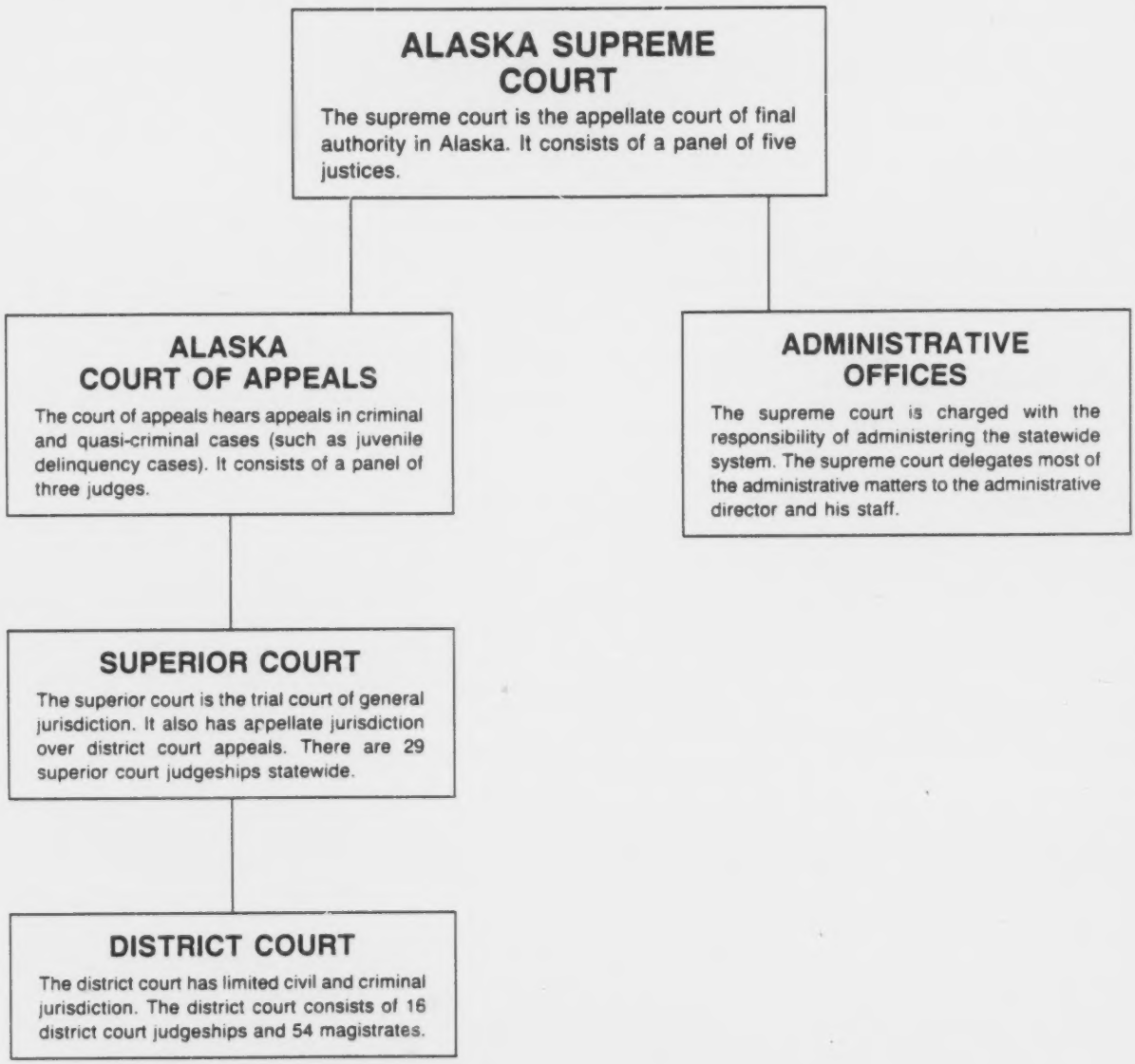
BUDGET
FY 1985 court system annual budget: $38,327,900
Percentage increase over FY 1984 annual budget: 3.7%
Percentage of FY 1985 annual state general fund budget: 1.7%

CASELOAD

Number of Cases **Filed** and **Decided** in FY 1985

Court	#of Cases FILED	% Change From FY 84	#of Cases DECIDED	% Change from FY 84
Supreme Court	528	-- 2%	484	– 15%
Appeals Court	506	– 5%	461	– 12%
Superior Court	21,626	+ 6%	18,561	+ 16%
District Court	142,946	+ 1%	129,971	– 4%

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM ORGANIZATION


ALASKA SUPREME COURT
The supreme court is the appellate court of final authority in Alaska. It consists of a panel of five justices.
ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS
The court of appeals hears appeals in criminal and quasi-criminal cases (such as juvenile delinquency cases). It consists of a panel of three judges.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
The supreme court is charged with the responsibility of administering the statewide system. The supreme court delegates most of the administrative matters to the administrative director and his staff.
SUPERIOR COURT
The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction. It also has appellate jurisdiction over district court appeals. There are 29 superior court judgeships statewide.
DISTRICT COURT
The district court has limited civil and criminal jurisdiction. The district court consists of 16 district court judgeships and 54 magistrates.

The Alaska judiciary has a unified, centrally administered, and totally state funded judicial system. County and municipal governments do not maintain a separate court system.

Profile of the Alaska Court System

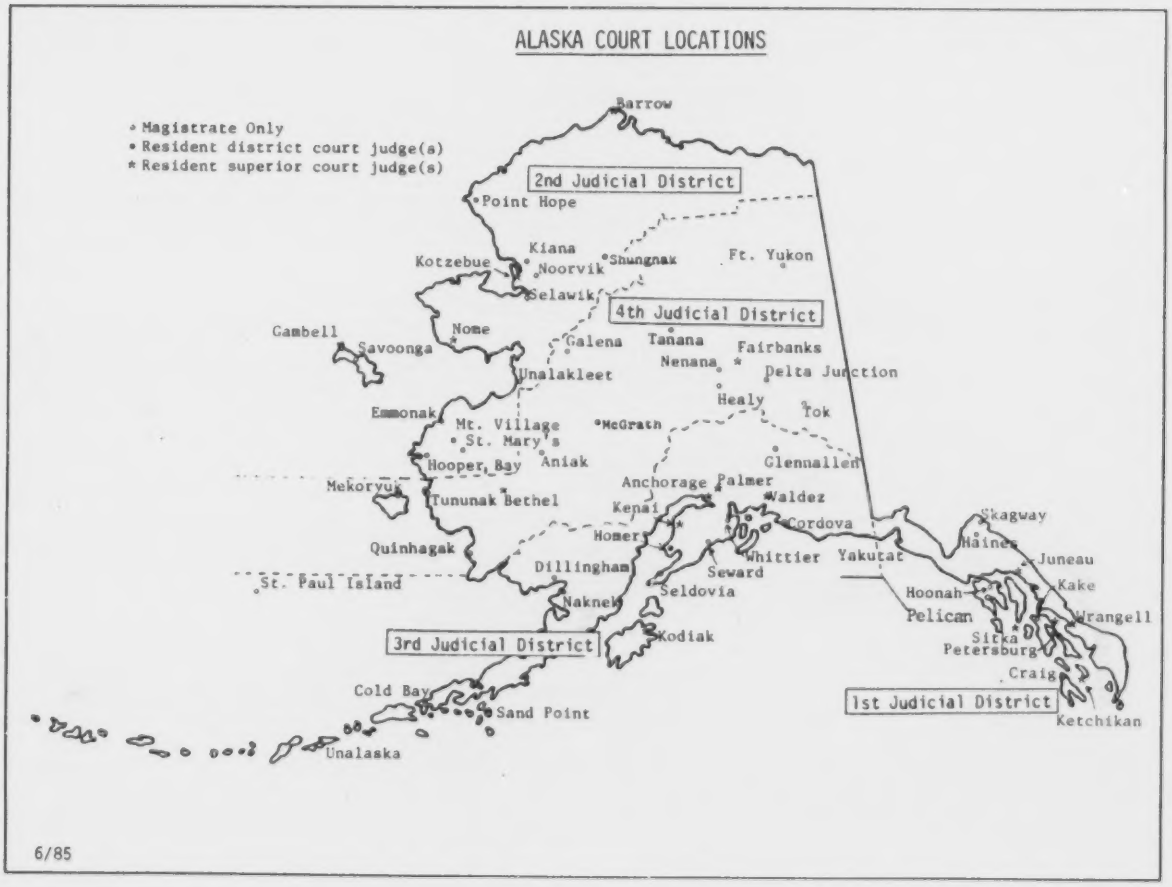
JULY 1, 1984 - June 30, 1985
Fiscal Year 1985

Introduction

There are four levels of courts in the Alaska Court System, each with different powers, duties and responsibilities. Alaska has no city, county or borough courts.

The chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court is the administrative head of the Alaska Court System. An administrative director is appointed by the chief justice with concurrence of the supreme court. The administrative director supervises the administration of all courts in the state.

The four levels of courts in the Alaska Court System are the supreme court, the court of appeals, the superior court and the district court. The supreme court and the superior court were established by the Alaska Constitution. The district court was established by state statute in 1959 and the court of appeals was



established by state statute in 1980. Jurisdiction and other areas of judicial responsibility for each level of court are set out in Title 22 of the Alaska Statutes.

Rules governing the administration of all courts as well as the rules of practice and procedure for civil and criminal cases are promulgated by the supreme court.

The Supreme Court

The Alaska Supreme Court is the highest level of state court in Alaska. The supreme court is comprised of the chief justice and four associate justices.

The five justices, by majority vote, select one of their members to be the chief justice. The chief justice holds that office for three years and may not serve consecutive terms.

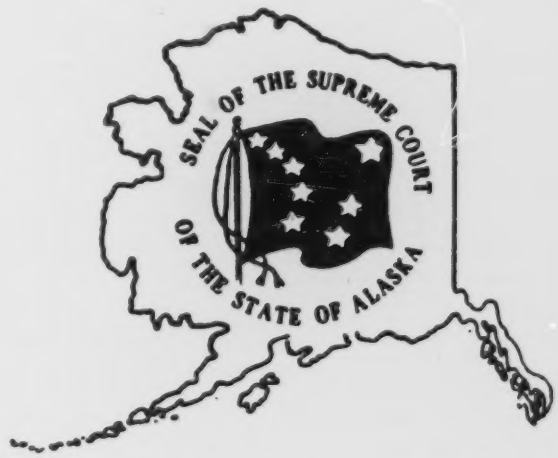
During FY 1985,[1] the Honorable Jay A. Rabinowitz was chosen as chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court. His term began October 1, 1984. He is the senior member of the current court, having served for 20 years, Chief Justice Rabinowitz resides in Fairbanks.

Justice Edmond W. Burke, who served as chief justice from October 1981 to September 1984, has served on the court for 11 years. He resides in Anchorage.

Justice Warren W. Matthews, who resides in Anchorage, has served on the supreme court for nine years.

Justice Allen T. Compton has been a member of the supreme court for five years. When he was appointed to the supreme court in 1980, he resided in Juneau. He moved to Anchorage in September 1983.

Justice Daniel A. Moore, Jr. has been a member of the supreme court for two years. He resides in Anchorage.



[1]The court system's fiscal year is July 1 - June 30. FY 85 is July 1, 1984 - June 30, 1985.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Justice Allen Compton, Justice Daniel Moore, Justice Edmond Burke, Chief Justice Jay Rabinowitz and Justice Warren Matthews

The supreme court hears cases on appeal from every location in the state. An appeal may be taken to the supreme court from a final judgment (that is, a judgment which substantially ends the court case) entered by the superior court in any civil action or proceeding. In criminal actions (and in certain quasi-criminal matters such as juvenile delinquency cases), the supreme court has the discretion to accept or deny litigants' requests that it review decisions made by the court of appeals. The supreme court may also take jurisdiction of a case pending before the court of appeals if the court of appeals certifies that the case involves a significant question of constitutional law or an issue of substantial public interest.

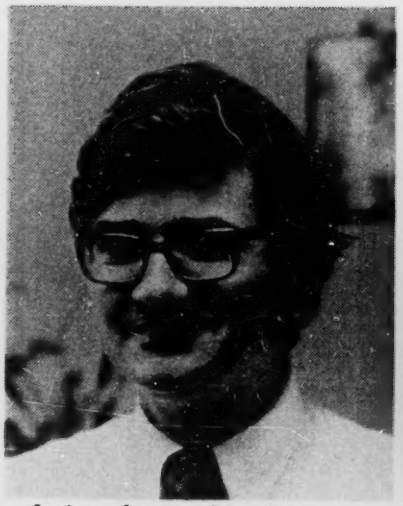
The Alaska Constitution grants the supreme court the power to establish rules governing the administration of all courts in the state and rules governing practice and procedure in civil and criminal cases. The supreme court has also adopted other rules such as rules governing the practice of law in the State

of Alaska, rules governing practice and procedure in children's matters, rules of probate procedure and rules of appellate procedure. The Alaska Legislature may change rules governing practice and procedure by an act expressing its intent to do so which is passed by a two-thirds majority of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

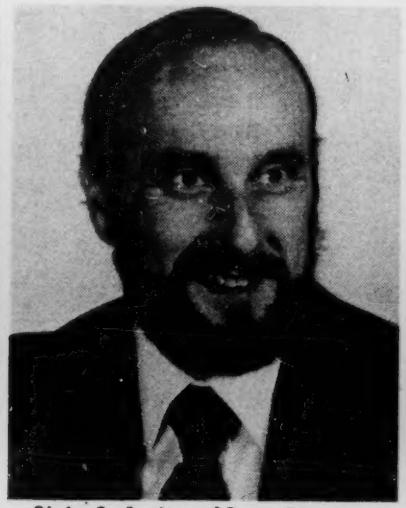
The supreme court meets weekly to confer on pending judicial and administrative matters. Arguments are heard by the five justices as a panel throughout the year on a monthly basis in Anchorage and Fairbanks, quarterly in Juneau and occasionally in other court locations. The supreme court will generally hear argument in the city where the case was heard by the trial court. Following argument or submission of the case on the basis of briefs without argument, the supreme court will decide the case, write an opinion and initiate its publication in the Pacific Reporter, 2d series, the regional reporter for the northwestern states. The State of Alaska has designated West Publishing Company's Alaska Reporter as its official reporter.

The clerk's office of the appellate courts, which includes the supreme court and the court of appeals, is located in Anchorage. David Lampen was appointed clerk of the appellate courts in February 1984. The clerk is required to be an attorney, preferably with some appellate experience. Responsibiities of the clerk include monitoring the caseflow through the supreme court and the court of appeals as well as making recommendations for improvements in appellate procedure. The clerk is also responsible for all case filing and calendaring, publishing opinions and related tasks. Deputy clerks are located in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks.

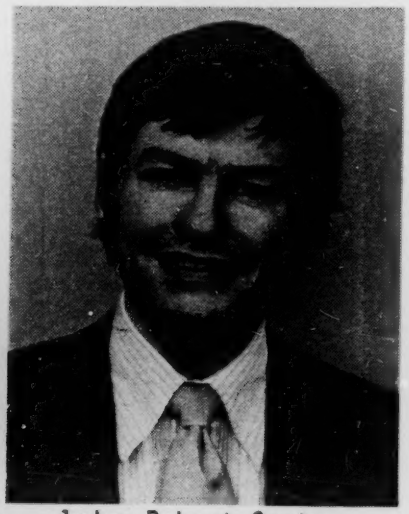
The Court of Appeals



Judge James Singleton



Chief Judge Alex Bryner

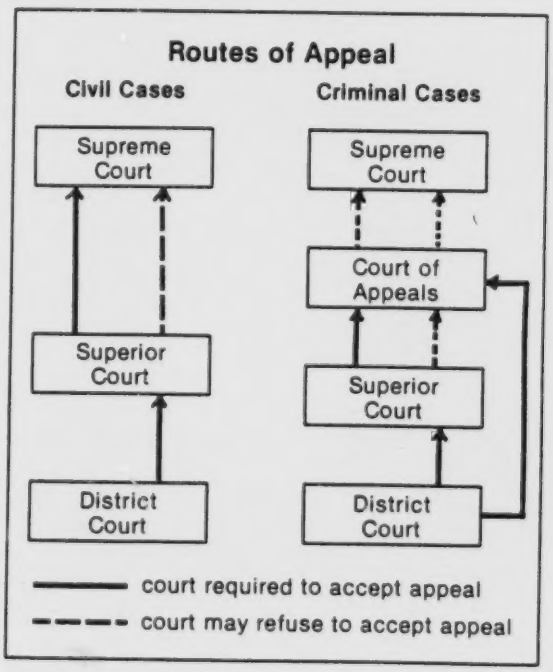


Judge Robert Coats

The court of appeals is a three-judge panel created by the Alaska Legislature in 1980. The three judges originally selected in 1980 remain on the court. They all reside in Anchorage where the court of appeals regularly meets. The court of appeals travels to Fairbanks as caseload demands.

The court of appeals has the authority to hear appeals from judgments in criminal cases and certain other quasi-criminal cases in which a minor is accused of committing a crime (juvenile delinquency cases), cases in which prisoners are challenging the legality of their confinement (habeas corpus matters), and cases involving probation and parole decisions.

Criminal appeals from the district court can be taken to the superior court or to the court of appeals, at the option of the defendant. A defendant who appeals from district court to superior court can ask the court of appeals to review the resulting decision of the superior court, but the court of appeals may, in its discretion, refuse to hear the appeal.



The Superior Court

The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction with original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters.

SUPERIOR COURT JURISDICTION

The superior court:

- serves as an **APPELLATE COURT** for appeals from the district court
- hears cases involving **CHILDREN** who have committed crimes or who are abused or neglected
- hears cases involving the **PROPERTY OF DECEASED OR INCOMPETENT PERSONS**
- hears cases involving the **INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT** of persons to institutions for the mentally ill
- handles **DOMESTIC RELATIONS** matters

At the end of FY 85, there were 29 superior court judges serving the State of Alaska. This number includes two Anchorage judgeships created during the 1984 session of the legislature. Governor Sheffield appointed Rene J. Gonzalez and Joan M. Katz to fill these judgeship positions on November 8, 1984.

On January 2, 1985, Anchorage Superior Court Judge Ralph E. Moody retired after 22 years on the bench. Judge Moody was appointed to the superior court bench in May 1962 by Governor William Egan. Judge Moody has served on the trial bench longer than any other judge in Alaska. The governor appointed Anchorage attorney Peter Michalski to replace Judge Moody on January 31, 1985.

Governor Sheffield appointed two other superior court judges during FY 85. On February 4, 1985, Mary E. Greene was chosen to fill a superior court vacancy in Fairbanks created by the retirement of Judge Warren W. Taylor, who had served on the bench for 20 years. Thomas M. Jahnke was appointed to the Wrangell/Petersburg judgeship, replacing Judge Henry C. Keene, Jr., who retired from the bench after 19 years of service.

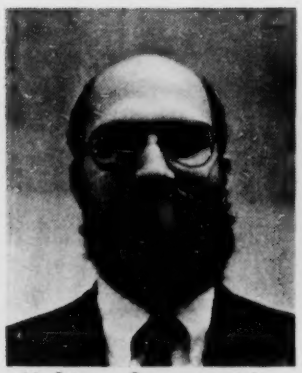
The State of Alaska is divided into four judicial districts.

The boundaries of the districts are defined by state statute. The judicial districts define the boundaries for judicial retention elections at which voters indicate their approval or rejection of judges and justices.

The chief justice designates a superior court judge from each of Alaska's four judicial districts to serve as presiding judge for a term of one calendar year. The presiding judge, in addition to regular judicial duties, is responsible for the administration of the trial courts within the district, including assignment of cases, supervision of court personnel, efficient handling of court business and appointment of magistrates.

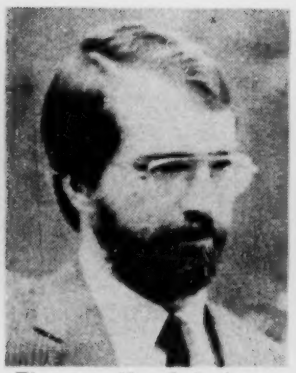
Superior Court Judges of the First Judicial District

Presiding Judge
Thomas E. Schulz
Appointed 1974
Ketchikan



Walter Carpeneti
Appointed 1981
Juneau

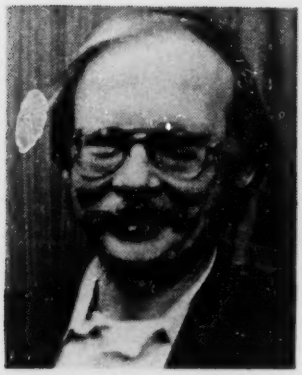
Duane Craske
Appointed 1976
Sitka



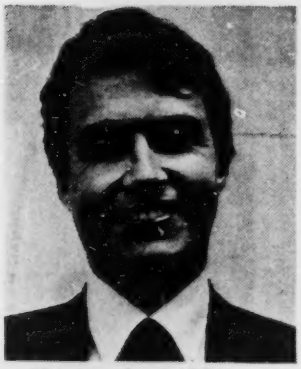
Thomas M. Jahnke
Appointed 1985
Wrangell/Petersburg

Rodger Pegues
Appointed 1981
Juneau

Superior Court Judges of the Second Judicial District

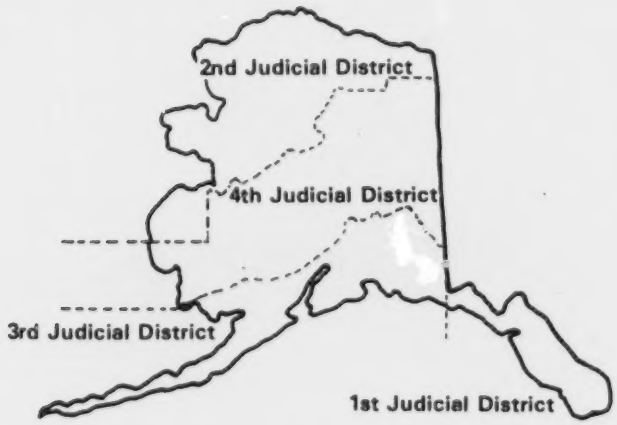


Presiding Judge
Charles R. Tunley
Appointed 1980
Nome

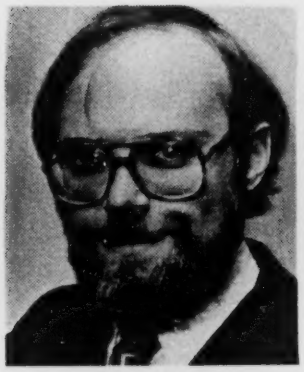


Michael Jeffery
Appointed 1982
Barrow

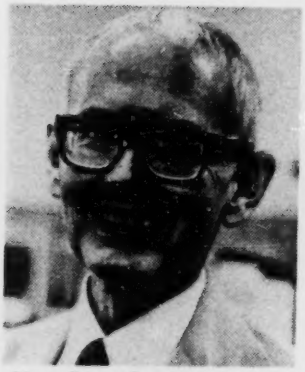
Paul Jones
Appointed 1980
Kotzebue



Superior Court Judges of the
Third Judicial District



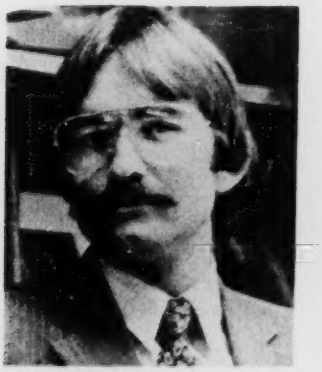
Presiding Judge
Douglas Serdahely
Appointed 1980
Anchorage



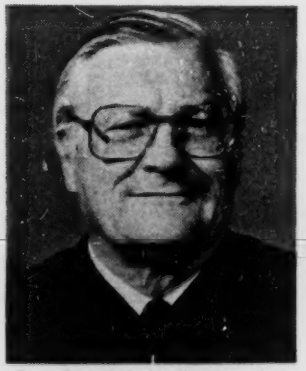
Charles Cranston
Appointed 1981
Kenai

Roy Madsen
Appointed 1975
Kodiak

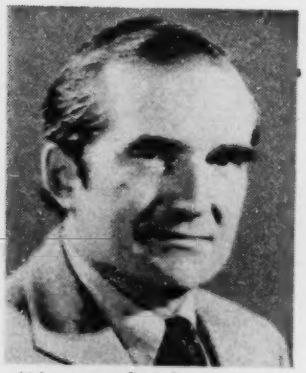
Beverly Cutler
Appointed 1982
Palmer



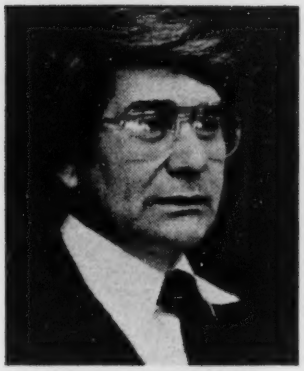
John Bosshard, III
Appointed 1984
Valdez



S. J. Buckalew, Jr.
Appointed 1973
Anchorage



Victor Carlson
Appointed 1970
Anchorage



Rene J. Gonzalez
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Karen Hunt
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Karl Johnstone
Appointed 1979
Anchorage

Joan M. Katz
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Peter A. Michalski
Appointed 1985
Anchorage

J. Justin Ripley
Appointed 1975
Anchorage

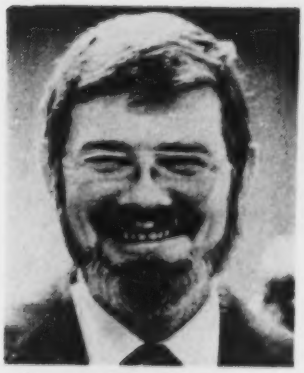
Mark Rowland
Appointed 1977
Anchorage

Brian Shortell
Appointed 1980
Anchorage

Milton Souter
Appointed 1978
Anchorage

Superior Court Judges of the
Fourth Judicial District

Presiding Judge
Jay Hodges
Appointed 1976
Fairbanks



James Blair
Appointed 1975
Fairbanks

Mary E. Greene
Appointed 1985
Fairbanks

Gerald Van Hoomissen
Appointed 1970
Fairbanks

Christopher Cooke
Appointed 1976
Bethel

The District Court

The Alaska Constitution provides that the legislature shall establish such lower courts as may be necessary. In 1959, the legislature created a district court for each judicial district and granted to the supreme court the power to increase or decrease the number of district court judges within each judicial district. As of June 30, 1985, there were 16 district court judges in Alaska.

DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION

A district court judge may:

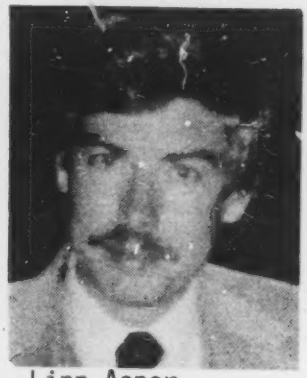
- hear **STATE MISDEMEANORS** and violations of **CITY AND BOROUGH ORDINANCES**
- issue **SUMMONSES, ARREST WARRANTS** and **SEARCH WARRANTS**
- hear first appearances and **PRELIMINARY HEARINGS** in felony cases
- issue **ABSENTEE BALLOTS** and record **VITAL STATISTICS** (in some areas of the state)
- serve as **CORONER**, hold inquests and act as temporary caretaker of the property of deceased persons
- hear **CIVIL CASES** valued up to $10,000, or up to $15,000 in motor vehicle cases (but see below: jurisdiction increased as of July 1, 1985)
- hear **SMALL CLAIMS** cases ($2,000 maximum)
- handle cases involving **CHILDREN** on an emergency basis
- as of July 1, 1985, may hear **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** cases

Legislation that became effective July 1, 1985, made some significant changes in district court jurisdiction in civil matters. Prior to the enactment of this new legislation, district court judges could hear cases for recovery of money or damages not exceeding $10,000 and for recovery of specific personal property when the value claimed did not exceed $10,000. In motor vehicle accident cases, the civil jurisdiction in district court was $15,000. The new legislation increased the jurisdiction of the district court in all types of civil cases to $25,000. In addition, the new law requires that actions within these monetary limits be filed in district court, except as provided by supreme court rule. The district court was also given authority over domestic violence cases.

Five new district court judges were appointed to the bench in FY 85. On November 8, 1984, Governor Sheffield appointed Martha Beckwith, David Stewart, Ralph Stemp and Michael White to district court judgeships in Anchorage. Two of these judgeships were created by the legislature in 1984. The other two vacancies were created by the retirement of Judge Warren Tucker in April 1984 and the appointment of District Court Judge John Bosshard, III, to the Valdez superior court in May 1984. On February 4, 1985, Governor Sheffield appointed Christopher E. Zimmerman to fill the Fairbanks district court position vacated by Judge Stephen R. Cline, who did not run for retention in the November 1984 general election.

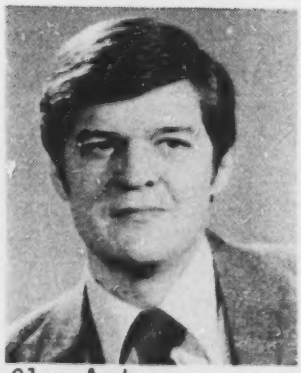
District Court Judges of the First Judicial District

George Gucker
Appointed 1983
Ketchikan



Linn Asper
Appointed 1984
Juneau

District Court Judges of the Third Judicial District



Glen Anderson
Appointed 1978
Anchorage

Elaine Andrews
Appointed 1981
Anchorage

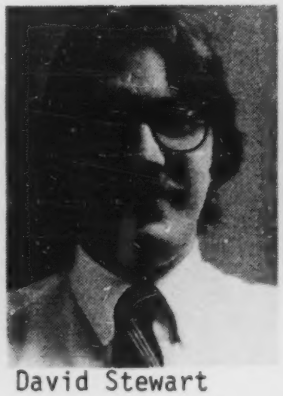
Martha Beckwith
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Natalie Finn
Appointed 1983
Anchorage

William Fuld
Appointed 1983
Anchorage

John Mason
Appointed 1970
Anchorage

Ralph Stemp
Appointed 1984
Anchorage



David Stewart
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

Michael White
Appointed 1984
Anchorage

James Hornaday
Appointed 1976
Homer

District Court Judges of the Fourth Judicial District

Hugh Conneily
Appointed 1960
Fairbanks

H. E. Crutchfield
Appointed 1980
Fairbanks

Jane Kauvar
Appointed 1981
Fairbanks

Christopher Zimmerman
Appointed 1985
Fairbanks

In the smaller, generally rural areas of the state, where the services of a full-time district court judge are not required, magistrates preside over certain district court matters. Magistrates also serve in most metropolitan areas to handle routine matters and ease the workload of the district court. As of June 30, 1985, there were 37 court locations in Alaska in which a magistrate was the highest ranking judicial officer.

A magistrate is not required to be a lawyer. The magistrate is a judicial officer of the district court whose authority is more limited than the authority of a district court judge.

MAGISTRATE JURISDICTION

In civil cases, a magistrate may:

- hear **SMALL CLAIMS** ($2,000 maximum)
- hear **FORMAL CIVIL** cases ($1,000 maximum)
- issue **SUMMONSES**, writs of **HABEAS CORPUS** (challenges to the legality of a person's confinement)
- issue **MARRIAGE LICENSES**
- perform **CORONER** duties, including inquests
- perform **NOTARY PUBLIC** functions, record **VITAL STATISTICS** (births, deaths and marriages) and issue **ABSENTEE BALLOTS**
- handle cases involving **CHILDREN** on an emergency basis
- hear **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** cases (as of July 1, 1985)

In criminal matters, a magistrate may:

- enter a judgment of conviction if a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to any **STATE MISDEMEANOR**
- hold **TRIALS** and enter judgments in **STATE MISDEMEANORS** if the defendant agrees in writing to be tried by a magistrate
- hear trials of **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE** violations and **STATE TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS**
- preside over **PRELIMINARY HEARINGS** in felony cases
- issue **ARREST WARRANTS, SUMMONSES** and **SEARCH WARRANTS**

Photo by Frank Flavin

STATEWIDE MAGISTRATE CONFERENCE
Anchorage, December 3-7, 1984

FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Cary Graves, Nome; Lowell Anagick, Unalakleet; Iris A. Lathrop, Tok; Barbara Macfarlane, Healy/Nenana; George Dozier, Unalaska; Dennis Nelson, Kodiak; Herb Viergutz, Aniak; Susan Thompson, Ketchikan; Skip Slater, Fairbanks; Karl Heiker, Cold Bay. **SECOND ROW:** Maxine Savland, Hoonah; Chris Sullivan, Whittier; John Howard, Angoon; Alice Smith, Mekoryuk; Dick Lincoln, Tununak; Dorothy Kameroff, Emmonak; George Rukovishnikoff, Jr., St. Paul Island; Lori Fleshman, Selawik; Anita Greist, Kiana; Marie Beans, Mt. Village; Carole Baekey, Judicial Education Coordinator; Phyllis Johnson, Valdez; Jeneane Moore, Magistrate Training Assistant. **THIRD ROW:** Leonard Apangalook, Gambell; Carl Heinmiller, Haines; Abner Gologergen, Savoonga; Rick Siangco, Juneau; Bill Cheney, Kake; James Farr, Kotzebue; Steve Green, Palmer; Steven Lisbourne, Point Hope; Elizabeth Dennis, Craig; Marilyn Hanson, Sitka; George Peck, Seward. **BACK ROW:** Superior Court Judge Duane Craske, Sitka; Superior Court Judge John Bosshard, III, Valdez; Paul Verhagen, Tanana; Joe Slusser, Delta Junction; Willie Naneng, Hooper Bay; Jim Jackson, Galena/McGrath; Kim Daniels, Pelican; Sharon Smyth, Ft. Yukon; Christine Kashevarof, Seldovia; Geoffrey Comfort, Dillingham; Craig McMahon, Bethel; Kathy Stewart, Petersburg; Linda Hartshorn, Wrangell; Jean Worley, Skagway.

Statewide Court Administration

Statewide court administration is the responsibility of the chief justice of the supreme court. By court rule, this responsibility is delegated to the administrative director of the courts subject to general guidelines set forth by the supreme court.

The Judicial Appointment Process

The governor of the state of Alaska appoints supreme court justices and judges of the court of appeals, superior court and district court from lists of qualified candidates submitted to the governor by the Alaska Judicial Council. The governor is given 45 days from receipt of nominations to make these appointments.

To be eligible for appointment to the supreme court, a person must be a citizen of the United States and a resident of Alaska for five years prior to appointment. A justice must be licensed to practice law in Alaska at the time of appointment and must have engaged in the active practice of law for eight years.

A court of appeals judge must be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Alaska for five years immediately preceding appointment, have been engaged for not less than eight years immediately preceding appointment in the active practice of law, and at the time of appointment be licensed to practice law in the state of Alaska.

The qualifications of a judge of the superior court are the same as for a supreme court justice, except that only five years of active practice are necessary.

A district court judge must be 21 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of the state for at least five years, and (1) be licensed to practice law in Alaska and have engaged in the active practice of law for not less than three years immediately preceding appointment, or (2) have served for at least seven years as a magistrate in the state and have graduated from an accredited law school.

Magistrates are not appointed by the governor nor are their qualifications reviewed by the Alaska Judicial Council. Their appointments are made for an indefinite period by the presiding judge of the judicial district in which they will serve. Each magistrate serves at the pleasure of the presiding judge.

A magistrate does not have to be a lawyer. A magistrate must be 21 years of age, a United States citizen, and a citizen of Alaska for six months prior to appointment.

Judicial Retention Elections

Each supreme court justice and each court of appeals judge is subject to approval or rejection by a majority of voters statewide on a non-partisan ballot at the first general election held more than three years after appointment. Thereafter, each justice must participate in a retention election every ten years; each court of appeals judge must participate every eight years.

Each superior court judge is subject to approval or rejection by the voters of the judicial district at the first general election held more than three years after the judge's appointment. Thereafter, the judge is subject to approval or rejection every sixth year. Each district court judge must also run in a retention election in his or her judicial district, at the first general election held more than one year after appointment and in a like manner every fourth year thereafter.

In November 1984, the following judges and justices participated in retention elections:

SUPREME COURT

Justice Allen T. Compton

COURT OF APPEALS

Judge Alexander O. Bryner
Judge Robert G. Coats
Judge James K. Singleton, Jr.

SUPERIOR COURT

First District

Judge Walter "Bud" Carpeneti
Judge Rodger W. Pegues
Judge Thomas Schulz

Second District

Judge Paul B. Jones
Judge Charles R. Tunley

Third District

Judge Victor D. Carlson
Judge Charles Cranston
Judge Roy H. Madsen
Judge J. Justin Ripley
Judge Douglas J. Serdahely
Judge Brian C. Shortell

Fourth District

Judge James R. Blair

DISTRICT COURT

First District

Judge George Gucker

Third District

Judge Glen C. Anderson
Judge Natalie K. Finn
Judge William Fuld
Judge John D. Mason

All these members of the judiciary were retained by the voters.

State laws which require judges to participate in retention elections do not apply to magistrates.

Judicial Education

All judges and magistrates in the Alaska trial courts receive formal training conducted either within the state or at training sessions sponsored by agencies outside of Alaska. Most outside training is conducted by the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. Between July 1, 1984 and June 30, 1985, 17 superior and district court judges and 8 magistrates attended training sessions at the National Judicial College.

Judicial training in Alaska takes several different forms. There is a statewide judicial conference each year for justices and judges which includes training in specific areas of court procedures or operations. Judges and some magistrates are eligible for attendance at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. All magistrates attend at least one magistrate training conference per year, and training judges and staff of the administrative office regularly visit with magistrates in their own court locations for on-site training.

The 1985 Alaska Judicial Conference was held in Sitka on May 15-17, 1985. Subjects covered included permanency planning for abused and neglected children, telephonic hearing procedures, judicial response to lawyer misconduct, victims' rights, trends in tort and products liability law and punitive damages.

Three in-state magistrate training conferences were conducted between July 1, 1984 and June 30, 1985. A statewide magistrate training conference was held in Anchorage December 3-7, 1984. A training conference for new magistrates was held April 22-26, 1985, in Anchorage. On April 1-5, 1985, deputy magistrates from each of the four judicial districts gathered in Anchorage for a training conference.

The Alaska Legislature annually appropriates from the state general fund all funds for the operation of the Alaska Court System. A statewide budget for all trial courts, the appellate courts and court administration is prepared centrally by the administrative office.

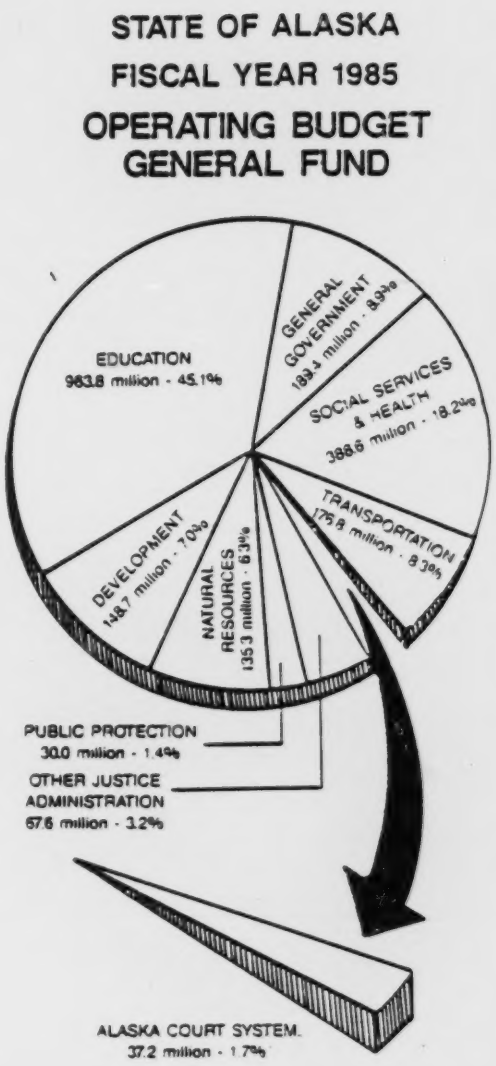
The judicial budget has grown steadily for the past several years at a rate of approximately 4% per year. These increases have been primarily a result of inflation, with a minimal increase for additional resources. Statewide, court caseloads have generally increased at a steady but moderate pace.

The court system operating budget accounts for approximately 1.7% of the total state general fund budget. The actual expenditures incurred by the court system during fiscal year 1983 were $34,349,600; fiscal year 1984, $36,960,000; and fiscal year 1985, $38,249,800.

The budget process for the court system begins with the submission of budget requests by the various trial courts to the administrative office. These requests are reviewed with each district and are modified to fit into an overall state budget plan.

Following legislative review and appropriation, funds are then allocated to the various judicial districts, the appellate courts and the administrative office. The appropriation covers all costs of the judicial branch in the state including judges' salaries, facilities rent, clerks' offices and administrative support.

Personnel costs, at the 1985 level of $29,344,200, represent approximately 77% of the total operating budget.



STATEWIDE BUDGET FOR ALASKA COURT SYSTEM - FISCAL YEAR 1985

Operating Budget Element	FY 85 Expenditures (thousands)	Full-Time Positions		
		Judges/ Justices	Magistrates	Support Personnel
Appellate Courts	$ 3,455.3	8		44
Trial Courts:				
1st District	4,545.0	7	11	45
2nd District	2,647.1	3	17	17
3rd District	15,888.8	26	14	236
4th District	7,188.9	9	14	83
Administration	4,524.7			60
Total	$38,249.8	53	56	485

Expenses for rent, maintenance and insurance on court facilities in 59 locations across the state amounted to $1,330,600. Jury fees amounted to $1,215,900. Due to the distances between courts, approximately $940,500 was spent for travel, including judicial, administrative, conference and juror travel and living expenses. Other operating expenses of the court, including commodities, phones, postage, and equipment rental, make up approximately $5,418,600 of the annual expense of the court.

Revenues generated by the courts are deposited in the state general fund, except those originating out of municipal ordinance violations, which are returned to the respective municipalities.

The court system annually collects over $5,000,000 in revenues. In fiscal year 1985, the revenue generated from fines and forfeitures amounted to $3,280,100; civil case filing fees ($50.00 superior court, $25.00 district court, $5.00 small claims) $444,000; clerical fees (notary, transcript, copies); miscellaneous receipts, $824,300; and cost recoveries and interest on investments, $455,200.

Alaska Judicial Council

The Alaska Judicial Council, which operates independently of the court system, was created by the state constitution to perform two primary functions: (1) to solicit, screen and nominate applicants for gubernatorial appointments to vacant judgeship positions and (2) to conduct studies for the improvement in the administration of justice and make recommendations to the legislature and the supreme court. The council is comprised of the chief justice, who serves as chair and ex officio member; three attorney members appointed by the Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar Association; and three non-attorney members appointed by the governor and subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the legislature in joint session. These six members serve for six-year terms.

The judicial council, which must report to the legislature and the supreme court at least once every two years, is assisted by a full-time executive director and support staff. For more information regarding the functions of the Alaska Judicial Council, call (907) 279-2526.

Commission on Judicial Conduct

The Commission on Judicial Conduct, created by the state constitution, operates independently of the court system.

The commission consists of nine members: three state court judges or justices; three lawyers with at least ten years experience in the practice of law in Alaska; and three persons who are not lawyers or judges. The commission investigates complaints against state judges and justices. The commission has the power to reprimand a justice or judge either publicly or privately. The commission may also refer matters to the supreme court with a recommendation that a judge be suspended, removed or retired from office or publicly or privately censured by the supreme court.

In calendar year 1984, the commission received 109 complaints, 37 of which were still unresolved at the end of 1984. In calendar year 1984, the commission issued no private reprimands. No public reprimands were issued and one matter was referred to the supreme court for proposed disciplinary action.

For more information regarding the Commission on Judicial Conduct, call (907) 264-0528.

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE APPELLATE COURTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 1984

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Report on the Activities of the Appellate Courts for Fiscal Year 1985

Introduction

Fiscal year 1985 (running from July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985) was an eventful period for the Alaska Supreme Court and the Alaska Court of Appeals. Justice Edmond W. Burke completed his term as chief justice on September 30, 1984. Justice Jay A. Rabinowitz began his third three-year term as chief justice on October 1, 1984. Four of the five justices now have their chambers in Anchorage, while Chief Justice Rabinowitz maintains his chambers in Fairbanks. The court continued its longstanding practice of hearing oral argument on a monthly basis in Anchorage and Fairbanks and several times a year in Juneau.

The court system suffered a sad loss when retired Justice John H. Dimond died on June 28, 1985. A member of the original Alaska Supreme Court, Justice Dimond had retired in 1971. Beginning in 1973, he was recalled to pro tem service on many occasions. At the time of his death, he was sitting as a pro tem appointment on several cases in the court of appeals. The court system will miss his wise counsel.

Appellate Court Clerk
David Lampen

The court of appeals completed its fifth year of operation. Chief Judge Bryner and Judges Coats and Singleton have served on the court since its inception in 1980. The three judges have their chambers in Anchorage. They hear oral argument in Anchorage on a monthly basis, and also sit in Fairbanks as often as the caseload demands.

Statistically, the total number of new filings decreased very slightly in the supreme court in FY 85.

While the number of sentence appeals filed in the court of appeals increased from the prior year, the overall number of new filings decreased slightly. The court had another productive year in terms of disposition of cases, although the total number of dispositions was not quite as high as in FY 84. Accordingly, the number of cases pending at the end of FY 85 increased slightly over the year-end total for FY 84.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICAL CATEGORIES

The supreme court's caseload had traditionally been divided into five statistical categories. These include:

Civil Appeals - A party has the right to appeal to the supreme court a final judgment in a civil case in superior court. The supreme court has discretion to accept civil appeals originating in the district court which have been heard on appeal by the superior court.

Criminal Appeals - An aggrieved party who is not satisfied with a decision in the court of appeals does not have an automatic right to have the supreme court consider the matter. Rather, the party must file a petition for hearing, seeking to have the supreme court exercise its discretion and agree to hear the case. A petition for hearing may be filed in three types of cases: (a) review of a decision by the court of appeals on a final appeal of the merits of a conviction; (b) review of a ruling by the court of appeals on a petition for review of an interlocutory order of the trial court; and (c) review of a ruling by the court of appeals in a criminal appeal of a district court judgment to the superior court and then by petition for hearing to the court of appeals. A petition for hearing to the supreme court that arises in any of these contexts will statistically be included in the heading "criminal appeals."

Sentence Appeals - If a petition for hearing to the supreme court raises only issues involving the sentence imposed on a criminal defendant, the matter is included in this category.

Petition for Review - A party may petition the supreme court to review an interlocutory decision of the trial court while the case is still proceeding in the lower court. As with a petition for hearing, there is no automatic right of appeal and the supreme court must exercise its discretionary power if it wishes to hear the matter. This type of application is limited to civil cases.

Original Applications - There are a number of types of proceedings that do not involve appellate review of a specific ruling by a lower court. Instead, the application for relief is initially filed with the supreme court. These proceedings include bar admission and attorney discipline matters, and cases referred to the supreme court under Appellate Rule 407 in which a federal court has certified that questions of state law are present for which there is no controlling precedent in the decisions of the state supreme court.

FILINGS
(Table I)

A total of 528 cases were filed or reinstated[1] during FY 85. This total represents a slight decrease of 2% from the 541 cases filed during FY 84, but it is a 4% increase over the FY 83 total of 509 cases. It is projected that the high level of total filings attained in the last three years will continue in the foreseeable future. Two superior court and district court judgeships, created in FY 84, were filled in FY 85. The appointment of four additional judges should increase the total number of trial court dispositions that can be appealed to the supreme court or the court of appeals. If the number of cases decided in the trial courts increases and the percentage of dispositions that are appealed remains relatively constant, then the number of filings with the appellate courts can be expected to increase in future years.

The number of civil appeals filed rose for the third year in a row. New civil filings increased from 271 in FY 83 and 300 in FY 84 to 311 this year. This figure is a 4% increase over the prior year and a 10% increase over the FY 83 total. The number of original applications also increased for the third straight year to 23 new filings in FY 85, up 15% from the 20 filings in FY 84.

The total number of discretionary applications to the supreme court decreased for the second year in a row. The drop was from 221 filings in FY 84 to 194 in FY 85, a 15% decrease. This overall decline occurred despite the fact that the number of petitions for hearing filed increased to the highest level attained since the creation of the court of appeals in 1981. The increase from 79 petitions for hearing filed in FY 84 to 93 such petitions filed in FY 85 amounted to an 18% jump. The number of petitions for hearing in sentence appeals decreased by 31%, however, from 13 in FY 84 to 9 in FY 85.

The most notable change in all of the figures for new case filings with the supreme court during the past year came with the petitions for review. After three years of substantial growth in annual filings of this type, the total dropped from 129 petitions in FY 84 to 92 in FY 85, a 29% decline. The figure for FY 85 is the lowest total for this category since the court began the present statistical summaries in 1977. The overall 2% decline in the total number of filings with the supreme court in all types of cases in the past year is directly due to the unusually large decrease in the number of petitions for review filed in FY 85.

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[1]Hereafter, all references to "filings" shall include both new filings and reinstatement of cases previously closed. There were 520 new filings and 8 cases reinstated in FY 85.

DISPOSITIONS
(Table II)

The supreme court had a less productive year in FY 85 than in the two preceding years. The court disposed of 484 cases, a 15% decrease from the FY 84 total of 567 dispositions.

The court disposed of a total of 197 petitions for hearing and review in FY 85, a 10% decrease from the prior year's total of 220. The number of original applications decided also declined from 22 in FY 84 to 14 in FY 85, a 36% decrease. The number of dispositions in civil appeals also decreased. The court disposed of 273 civil appeals, a 16% decrease from the 325 resolved in FY 84. It must be noted that the 325 civil dispositions in FY 84 was the highest total ever achieved by the supreme court. The long-term impact is that when compared to the 311 new civil cases filed in FY 85, the court lost ground in reducing its backlog of civil appeals waiting to be decided.

It is also helpful to review these disposition totals in terms of the number of cases decided on the merits versus those disposed of not on the merits. In FY 84, the court decided 257 cases on the merits out of a total of 567 dispositions, or 45% of the total. In FY 85, the court decided 213 cases on the merits out of a total of 484 dispositions, or 44% of the total. Thus, while the total number of dispositions dropped both for cases decided on the merits (257 in FY 84 to 213 in FY 85, a 17% decline) and for cases decided not on the merits (310 in FY 84 to 271 in FY 85, a 13% decrease), the percentage of dispositions on the merits remained constant at approximately 45%.

As might be expected given the overall decrease in the number of total dispositions, the number of opinions published dropped from 148 in FY 84 to 104 in FY 85, a 30% decline. Output did increase in one area during the past year, however. The court issued 66 unpublished Memorandum Opinion & Judgments (MO&Js), a 53% increase over the 43 MO&Js published in FY 85 and a 143% increase over the 21 MO&Js published in FY 83. The increased use of unpublished MO&Js to dispose of cases on the merits has been one of the most noticeable shifts in the court's practice over the last several years. In FY 83, MO&Js made up only 11% of all cases disposed of on the merits. This increased to 23% of the total in FY 84, and jumped to 39% last year. The court was, therefore, able to dispose of nearly forty percent of the cases that it decided on the merits without the effort and time necessary to prepare a formal opinion for publication in each matter. The use of this procedure not only allows the court to marshal its energies into cases that require a published opinion that discusses the issues in more depth, but it also reduces the overall time it takes to dispose of the court's caseload.

PENDING CASELOAD
(Tables III & IV)

The decrease in total dispositions had a clear impact upon the number of pending cases at the end of the FY 85 term. The number of cases pending on June 30, 1985, stood at 404, a 12% increase over the FY 84 year-end total of 360 cases. Moreover, this increase in FY 85 broke a string of four consecutive years in which the court had completed a term with a lower number of cases pending that it had had at the beginning of the term. In other words, the court was not able to cut into its backlog during the past year.

The total number of discretionary applications pending at the end of the year remained relatively constant from the prior term. The total of 59 pending petitions for hearing and petitions for review is an 8% decrease from the 64 petitions pending at the end of the FY 84 year. The number of original applications pending at the end of the FY 85 year tripled, however, to 15 cases. This growth appears to be due substantially to an increase in the number of bar and attorney discipline matters. The most sizable increase in the number of pending cases, however, came with the civil appeals. The number of civil appeals pending at the end of FY 85 rose to 331 cases, a 14% increase over the 291 civil appeals pending one year earlier. The court had been making slow, but consistent progress in reducing its civil appeals backlog over the prior four years. The FY 85 figures will, hopefully, be only a temporary break in this trend.

It is also helpful to review the pending caseload based upon the stage in the appellate process that the case had reached rather than upon the nature of the proceeding. Viewing the figures in this way reveals several noteworthy trends. In FY 84, 62% of the pending cases (225 of 360 total cases) were at some stage of the appellate proceeding (awaiting prepara- tion of the record, filing of briefs, or submission of the case to the court) prior to consideration by the court on the merits. Another 31% (112 of 360 pending cases) had been submitted to the court, but the court had not yet decided whether or not to grant the discretionary application or it had not filed an opinion or MO&J on the merits. The FY 85 figures indicate that 56% of the pending cases (225 of 404) were awaiting the filing of the record or briefs or the submission of the case to the court. The number of cases that had been submitted to the court but had not yet been decided had increased to 38% of the total pending caseload (155 of 404). Thus, the court has before it and awaiting a decision a higher percentage of the total caseload.

One other change in the distribution of the cases pending at the end of the term deserves notice. The number of cases awaiting the certification of the record increased

from 13% of the total (46 of 360) in FY 84 to 22% of the total (88 of 404) in FY 85. Since the records are prepared by the superior court - Appeals Division in each judicial district, this group of cases is really outside the control of the court or the clerk's office during the period that the records are being completed. It would appear that an extra effort may be needed from the superior court in order to clear up the backlog of cases awaiting the preparation of the record on appeal. As counsel cannot prepare their briefs until the record is certified, a decrease in the number of cases in this group would be expected to decrease the number of cases before the supreme court awaiting the filing of briefs. The figures confirm this development. At the end of FY 84, 37% of the pending caseload was awaiting the filing of briefs (134 or 360). By the end of FY 85, with the increase in the number of cases awaiting the certification of the record, the number of cases awaiting the filing of briefs had dropped to 26% of the total (103 of 404). It should also be noted that when this large block of cases awaiting the completion of the record and briefing is perfected, there will be a substantial number of additional appeals that will require action by the court within the six-month statutory time limit.

TIME REQUIRED FOR DISPOSITION OF CASES (Table V)

For the fourth straight year, the supreme court managed to reduce the average time it takes to dispose of a civil appeal. The ideal time frame for completion of an appeal under the time limits specified in the appellate rules and the internal procedures of the court is 10.8 months. The average disposition time is still considerably above that standard, but there has been a steady improvement over the last four years. The average time in FY 85 of 16.5 months is a two-month decrease over the FY 84 average of 18.4 months. The improvement is more dramatically highlighted when it is noted that the average time from the filing of the notice of appeal to the closing of a civil appeal has dropped from 593 days in FY 83 to 558 days in FY 84 to 496 days in FY 85 (an 11% improvement over FY 84).

The figures reveal that the improvement in the average disposition time has occurred in one principal segment of the appellate process. The average period of time from the filing of the notice of appeal to oral argument or the submission of the case for consideration on the briefs has remained fairly constant over the last 3 years (319 days in FY 83, 312 days in FY 84, and 309 days in FY 85).

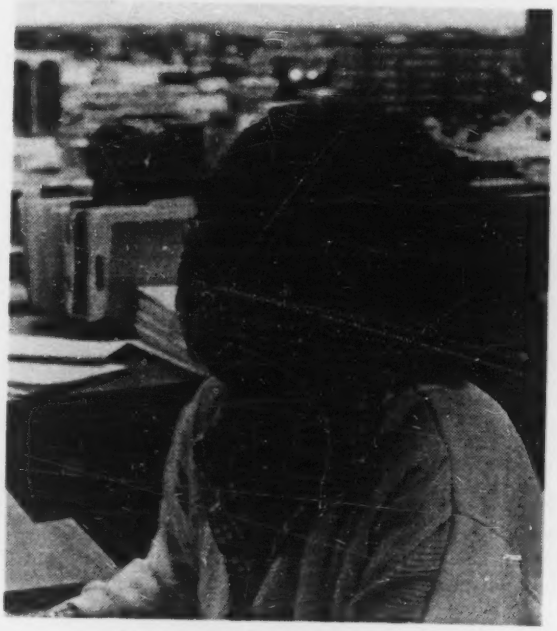
Any further improvement in this time frame will have to come from counsel and the court staff because these appeals are out of the justices' hands while the record is being prepared, briefs are being filed and oral argument is calendared.

However, there has been substantial improvement in the average time that it takes to complete the next step in the appellate process, the time a case is under advisement with the court. The average amount of time that it takes the court to prepare a draft opinion and approve its publication has dropped from 244 days in FY 83 to 221 days in FY 84 to 168 days in FY 85. The primary cause for this improvement appears to be the increasing use of unpublished MO&J's, which usually require less time to draft, circulate, and be approved by the court. On the whole, the average disposition figures are encouraging evidence of the court's efforts to reduce court delay and expedite the resolution of appeals.

PETITIONS FOR HEARING

The supreme court has traditionally exercised its discretionary power to hear appeals from decisions of the court of appeals sparingly. This trend continued in FY 85. The supreme court voted on whether or not to grant 90 petitions for hearing. Of these 90 petitions, the court granted 12 (13%) and denied 78 (87%). This grant versus deny rate has remained constant for several years (13% in FY 83, 14% in FY 84, and 13% in FY 85).

The court of appeals disposed of 340 cases on the merits during FY 85. One hundred and two petitions for hearing were filed during the same period. Thus, the parties sought review by the supreme court in 30% of the cases disposed of by the court of appeals in FY 85. This figure is a sizeable increase over the FY 84 rate of 23%. There is no clear reason why a larger percentage of court of appeals decisions are being appealed to the supreme court, but it is clear that if the court of appeals' disposition rate increases, the number of discretionary appeals to the supreme court will also grow considerably. On the other hand, the supreme court's sparing exercise of its discretionary power means that the court reviews and decides on the merits only 4% of the cases decided on the merits by the court of appeals.



Chief Deputy Clerk
Pam McIntire

FILINGS
(Tables VII & IX)

For the third year in a row, over 500 new cases were filed with the Alaska court of appeals. A total of 506 new cases were filed or reinstated in FY 85. This figure includes 287 merit appeals (in which a party raises issues on the merits of a conviction in a direct appeal from the superior court or the district court), 158 sentence appeals (in which a party appeals the sentence imposed), 60 petitions (matters in which a party requests that the court of appeals exercise its discretion in reviewing a ruling in a pending trial court matter or requests the court of appeals to review a decision of the superior court sitting on appeal from a district court ruling), and 1 original matter (cases filed initially with the court of appeals). This figure of 506 cases is down slightly (5%) from the prior year's total of 531 filings. The number of new merit appeals filed declined 8%, while the number of new sentence appeals increased 5% over the FY 84 totals. The number of petitions filed decreased by 6%. The number of original applications filed dropped from 5 to 1, an 80% decrease. While the total number of filings did decrease slightly from the prior year's total, the figure for FY 85 was still substantial and reflected the fact that the workload of the three-member court of appeals has grown considerably since the creation of the court in the fall of 1980.

A different picture of the court's caseload can be obtained from dividing the new filings into felony versus misdemeanor appeals. When the felony merit and sentence appeals are combined, it reveals that the total number of new cases involving felonies increased by 17% from 323 of the 531 total filings in FY 84 to 379 of the 506 filings in FY 85. The number of misdemeanor appeals filed (both merit and sentence) dropped by 20% between FY 84 (109 of 531 filings) and FY 85 (87 of 506). In FY 85 felony appeals comprised 75% of all filings with the court as compared to 61% in FY 84. Felony appeals normally involve more serious crimes. The trials are usually longer and more complicated, as reflected in the longer records on appeal. The issues on appeal in these matters tend to be more difficult to resolve. This change in the distribution of the new filings with the court of appeals may indicate that the court will have a more difficult time in disposing of its pending caseload.

DISPOSITIONS
(Tables VIII & IX)

The court of appeals had a productive year, but it did not reach the disposition totals achieved in FY 83 and FY 84. The court disposed of a total of 461 cases, a 12% decrease from the 526 dispositions in FY 84. The number of merit appeals decided rose by 3% from 276 in FY 84 to 283 in FY 85. The number of sentence appeals decided decreased by 37% from 168 in FY 84 to 122

in FY 85. Similarly, the number of petitions decided declined by 29% from 77 in FY 84 to 55 in FY 85.

As was mentioned in the above section on filings, calculating the number of dispositions based upon felony versus misdemeanor appeals provides some interesting information. In FY 84, 63% of the court's dispositions were felony matters (331 of 526 total dispositions) and 21% were misdemeanor cases (113 of 526). The FY 85 figures show that 63% of the dispositions last year were felony merit or sentence appeals (290 of 461) and 25% were misdemeanor cases (115 of 461).

While these percentages remained fairly constant over the last two years, a further breakdown of these figures reveals more clearly where the recent decrease in the total dispositions occurred. While the same percentage of the total dispositions involved felony matters in FY 85, the breakdown between felony merit appeals and felony sentence appeals disposed of changed dramatically. In FY 84, 56% percent of the felony dispositions were merit appeals (184 of 331) and 44% were sentence appeals (147 of 331). In FY 85, this had shifted to 64% of all the felony dispositions coming on merit appeals (185 of 290) and 36% coming on sentence cases (105 of 290). When these figures are compared with the filing statistics, they reveal that while the filings of felony sentence

LEFT TO RIGHT: Deputy Clerks Sherrie Beck, Patsy Hernandez, Jan Collins, Carolyn Hudnall, Carol Vance and Nadya Rodlessny

appeals decreased by 5%, the disposition of felony sentence appeals decreased by 29%. The primary area where dispositions decreased and the backlog increased in FY 85 was felony sentence appeals.

It should be noted that there is no similar shift in misdemeanor appeals. In FY 84, misdemeanor merit appeal dispositions comprised 81% (92 of 113 total dispositions) of all misdemeanor cases decided during the year. In FY 85, misdemeanor merit appeal dispositions constituted 85% (98 of 115) of all misdemeanor dispositions during the year. When compared with the filing figures, there is no drop in disposition versus filings similar to that experienced with the felony appeals.

The court issued 103 published opinions during the FY 85 year, a 14% decrease from the total of 120 in FY 84. The court also issued 238 unpublished MO&Js, a 1% decrease over the FY 84 total of 242 MO&Js. This calculates to a publication percentage of 30%, which is comparable to the FY 84 publication percentage of 33%.

Finally, it is helpful to compare dispositions with filings in order to reveal backlog trends. In FY 84, 294 felony appeals were decided, but 334 were added, leaving a net of 40 new felony cases added to the backlog. For misdemeanor matters, 85 cases were decided in FY 84, but 128 new ones were filed, leaving a net loss of 43 cases added to the backlog. In FY 85 the figures show that 290 felony appeals were decided and 338 new cases were added, leaving a net increase in the backlog of 48 cases. For misdemeanor appeals, 115 cases were disposed of and 107 new cases were filed, leaving a net reduction in the backlog of 8 cases. The court was thus not able to reduce its backlog during FY 85, although the overall increase was smaller than in FY 84.

PENDING CASELOAD
(Tables IX & X)

There were 486 open files in the court of appeals on June 30, 1985, an increase of 10% over the total caseload pending at the end of the prior year. The make-up of this group of cases reflects the shifts in the filing and disposition patterns. Merit appeals comprised 79% of the total pending caseload at the end of FY 84. By the end of this year, merit appeals comprised only 70% of the pending caseload. The main shift in the makeup of the pending caseload had come in sentence appeals, which in FY 84 had comprised 19% of the total. By the end of FY 85, sentence appeals comprised 26% of the pending caseload.

There had also been a substantial shift in the breakdown of the pending cases based upon the stage of appellate processing that each case had reached. The percentage of cases awaiting certification of the record, filing of briefs or submission of the case to the court for consideration decreased from 59% of the total pending cases at the end of FY 84 year to 45% at the end of this year. The number of appeals under

advisement and awaiting decision increased from 32% of the pending cases at the end of FY 84 to 45% of the same total at the end of this year. These figures reflect a new procedure for screening and assigning merit appeals that was instituted within the clerk's office during the past year. This procedure ensures that cases are assigned to the court on the merits as soon as the briefing is completed. The time-lag between the completion of briefing and the assignment to the court has been reduced substantially, but these changes are reflected in the increased number of cases now under advisement.

Current disposition rates indicate that it would take the court of appeals just over 17 months to dispose of the felony merit appeals pending on June 30, 1985, and just under 10 months for misdemeanor appeals. The figure for felony merits appeals of 17.2 months is up slightly from last year's figure of 16.4 months. The figure for misdemeanor merit appeals dropped considerably from 12.9 months in FY 84 to 9.6 months. The greatest change in the disposition rates, however, came with sentence appeals. This disposition rate doubled from 5.9 months in FY 84 to 12.2 months in FY 85. The drop in sentence appeal dispositions has been noted above. This is one area where the court of appeals will have to increase its efforts in dispositions.

TIME REQUIRED FOR DISPOSITION OF CASES (Table XI)

In spite of the overall decline in filings and dispositions, the Court reduced the average time period for disposition in several categories of cases. The averages for each category in FY 85 were 487 days for felony merit appeals, 339 days for misdemeanor merit appeals, 262 days for felony sentence appeals and 243 days for the misdemeanor sentence appeals. These figures represent a 4% decrease for felony merit cases, a 6% increase for misdemeanor merit matters, a 4% decrease for felony sentence appeals and a 2% increase for misdemeanor sentence cases. While none of the changes between FY 84 and FY 85 were sizeable, it is important to note that the court did manage to reduce the average disposition time for both merit and sentence felony appeals.

Dividing the disposition figures into the amount of time it took on average to perfect an appeal versus the time the case was under advisement reveals that in FY 85 it took approximately the same time to perfect a felony appeal as in FY 84 (305 days for felony merit and 110 days for felony sentence in FY 85 versus 302 days for felony merit and 108 days for felony sentence appeals in FY 84). Misdemeanor appeals took much longer in FY 85 to be perfected (181 days for misdemeanor merit and 124 days for misdemeanor sentence

in FY 85, 148 days for misdemeanor merit and 79 days for misdemeanor sentence appeals in FY 84).

While the total number of dispositions in FY 85 may have decreased, the average time for disposition once the case was under advisement with the Court was considerably shorter. For felony merit appeals, the average time that a case was under advisement dropped from 205 days in FY 83 to 176 days in FY 84 to 157 days in FY 85 (an 11% decrease). For misdemeanor merit appeals the improvement was even more substantial. The average time under advisement has dropped from 165 days in FY 83 to 159 days in FY 84 to 135 days in FY 85 (a 16% decrease). For felony sentence appeals, the figures were 170 days in FY 83 to 145 days in FY 84 to 134 days in FY 85 (an 8% improvement). Finally, the average time under advisement for misdemeanor sentence appeals showed a 15% improvement from 146 days in FY 83 to 121 days in FY 84 to 103 days in FY 85.

As the number of filings grows in future years, the court will have to increase its efforts to dispose of more cases at a faster rate. This is a difficult goal, but it can be attained if positive trends from past years continue in the future.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE I

RECAPITULATION - FISCAL YEAR 1984-85

	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Sentence Appeals	Petitions for Review	Originals	TOTAL
Beginning	291	21	5	38	5	360
Transferred to Court of Appeals						0
Transferred from Court of Appeals						0
Filed	305	92	9	91	23	520
Reinstated	6	1		1		8
Converted[a] (net)	1		1	-3	1	0
Corrected (net)						0
Closed	273	79	14	104	14	484
Ending	330	35	1	23	15	404

[a]By action of the court or the parties, cases are occasionally converted from one type to another. These figures represent the net of all such changes during 1984-85.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE II

DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL 1984-85

DISPOSITIONS	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Sentence Appeals	Petitions for Review[a]	Original Applications	TOTAL ALL CASES
PUBLISHED OPINION						
Affirmed	38	1	1	2	1	43
Reversed or vacated	49	4		2		55
Affirmed in part/Reversed in part	19	1	1			21
Other	6					6
Total	112	6	2	4	1	125
SUMMARILY ON MERITS						
Affirmed	55		2	1	1	59
Reversed or vacated	8			4		12
Affirmed in part/Reversed in part	4			1		5
Other				4	8	12
Total	67		2	10	9	88
TOTAL ON MERITS	179	6	4	14	10	213
PETITION DENIALS		69	9	77	2	157
DISMISSALS						
Stipulated or by Appellant	68	1		7	1	77
Motion of Appellee	4				1	5
Sua sponte	22	3	1	6		32
TOTAL NOT ON MERITS	94	73	10	90	4	271
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	273	79	14	104	14	484

[a]Also includes two small categories of petitions for hearing. See text.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE III - HISTORICAL[a]

	1978	1979	1980[c]	1980-81[c]	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
A. FILINGS[b]								
Civil Appeals	256	305	255	303	257	271	300	311
Criminal Appeals	135	133	102	32	33	92	79	93
Sentence Appeals	56	40	51	15	1	14	13	9
Petitions for Review	156	141	140	119	104	113	129	92
Originals	27	37	24	24	14	19	20	23
TOTAL	630	656	572	493	409	509	541	528
B. DISPOSITIONS								
Civil Appeals	225	254	247	264	273	307	325	273
Criminal Appeals	131	139	126	104	26	83	89	79
Sentence Appeals	43	55	44	32	1	12	12	14
Petitions for Review	136	150	148	146	102	118	119	104
Originals	25	36	21	22	20	18	22	14
TOTAL	560	634	586	568	422	538	567	484
C. DISPOSITIONS								
On Merits	302	338	320	348	209	241	257	213
Petitions & Originals Denied	99	100	93	88	98	179	190	157
Dismissals	159	196	173	132	115	118	120	114
TOTAL	560	634	586	568	422	538	567	484
D. OPINIONS PUBLISHED	237	234	248	263	140	172	148	104
MEMORANDUM OPINION AND JUDGMENTS	15	38	26	19	21	21	43	66
E. PENDING END OF YEAR								
Civil Appeals	297	346	351	366	353	316	291	331
Criminal Appeals	209	200	41	13	23	33	21	35
Sentence Appeals	51	39	12	1	1	4	5	1
Petitions for Review	61	54	43	28	29	26	38	22
Originals	6	7	9	10	6	7	5	15
TOTAL	624	646	456	418	412	386	360	404

[a]The figures for cases pending at the end of one year plus the next year's filings minus dispositions do not always equal cases pending at the end of the following year due to reclassifications and corrections. See footnote a to Table I.

[b]Includes reinstatements.

[c]On September 18, 1980, the Court of Appeals began operations and the jurisdiction and workload of the Supreme Court changed significantly. Information before and after that date is therefore not strictly comparable. The 1980 reporting period covers the calendar year 1980. It overlaps by six months with the 1980-81 reporting period, which begins July 1, 1980 and ends June 30, 1981. Activity during the last six months of 1980 is therefore reported in both columns.

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE IV

REASONS FOR CASES PENDING JUNE 30, 1985

	Civil Appeals	Criminal Appeals	Sentence Appeals	Petitions for Review	Original Applications	TOTAL ALL CASES
Awaiting record	86				2	88
Awaiting briefs	78	14	1	4	6	103
Awaiting hearing/submission	32	2				34
With Central Staff						0
Not with Central Staff						0
Awaiting draft opinion	63	5		6	2	76
Draft opinion circulating	53	3		5	5	66
Awaiting decision on granting petition		8		5		13
Awaiting record return or decision on rehearing	5					5
Stayed or remanded	14	3		2		19
TOTAL CASES PENDING JUNE 30, 1985	331	35	1	22	15	404

ALASKA SUPREME COURT

TABLE V

LENGTH OF TIME TO DISPOSITION

(Average Number of Days)

Cases Decided by Opinion or MO&J

	Fiscal Year 1985 Civil Appeals	Fiscal Year 1984 Civil Appeals	Fiscal Year 1983 Civil Appeals	Fiscal Year 1982 Civil Appeals
Notice of Appeal to Record Certification	73	70	72	81
Record certification to Last Brief	150	147	156	160
Last Brief to Argument or Submission	86	95	91	88
Argument or Submission to Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation	69	99	118	121
Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation to Publication	99	122	126	152
Publication to Closing	19	25	31	21
TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS	496	558	593	623
Shortest Total Number of Days	182	55	55	169
Longest Total Number of Days	1350	1272	1392	1206
Number of Cases Averaged	(181)	(208)	(213)	(169)

AIASKA SUPREME COURT & COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE VI

BACKLOG MONTHS

	At 1984-85 disposition rate, months necessary to dispose of:	
	1984-85 filings	Cases pending 6/30/85
SUPREME COURT		
All cases	13.1	10.0
Civil appeals only	13.4	14.6
COURT OF APPEALS		
All cases	13.2	12.7
Felony merit appeals only	13.1	17.2
Misdemeanor merit appeals only	10.5	9.6
Sentence appeals only	15.5	12.2

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE VII

RECAPITULATION - FISCAL YEAR 1985

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
Beginning	251	99		72	10		8	2	1		443
Transferred from Supreme Court											0
Transferred to Supreme Court											0
Filed	196	85		136	21		51	8		1	498
Reinstated	5	1		1			1				8
Converted (net)[a]	-5	-1		6							0
Corrected (net)[b]	-3	-3		1			1	3		1	0
Closed	185	98		105	17		44	10		1	461
Ending	264	78		115	9		15	4		1	486

[a] By action of the court or the parties, cases are occasionally converted from one type to another. These figures represent the net of all such changes during 1985.

[b] This category includes cases erroneously misclassified at the time they were filed. These figures represent the net of all such corrections during 1985.

TABLE VIII

DISPOSITIONS - FISCAL YEAR 1985

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
DISPOSITIONS											
PUBLISHED OPINION											
Affirmed	24	15		7	3		2				51
Reversed or vacated	19	8		9				1	1		38
Affirmed in part/ Reversed in part	8										8
Other	3	2		1							6
Total	54	25		17	3		2	1	1		103
SUMMARILY ON MERITS											
Affirmed	70	41		44	8		1				164
Reversed or vacated	17	12		12			1	1			43
Affirmed in part/ Reversed in part	6	2		1							9
Other	9	5		5	1		1			1	22
Total	102	60		62	9		3	1		1	238
TOTAL ON MERITS	156	85		79	12		5	2	1	1	341
PETITION DENIALS							32	7			39
DISMISSALS											
Stipulated or by Appellant	22	9		20	5		3	1			60
Motion of Appellee				1							1
Sua sponte	7	4		5			4				20
TOTAL NOT ON MERITS	29	13		26	5		39	8			120
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	185	98		105	17		44	10	1	1	461

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE IX

HISTORICAL[a]

		1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
A.	FILINGS[b]				
	Merit Appeals	245	343	312	287
	Sentence Appeals	120	164	150	158
	Petitions	80	74	64	60
	Originals	14	3	5	1
	TOTAL	459	584	531	506
B.	DISPOSITIONS				
	Merit Appeals	174	347	276	283
	Sentence Appeals	63	171	168	122
	Petitions	79	72	77	55
	Originals	12	4	5	1
	TOTAL	328	594	526	461
C.	DISPOSITIONS				
	On Merits	195	466	402	340
	Petitions & Originals Denied	49	53	50	40
	Dismissals	84	75	74	81
	TOTAL	328	594	526	461
D.	OPINIONS PUBLISHED	69	169	120	103
	MEMORANDUM OPINION & JUDGMENTS and SUMMARY DISPOSITIONS	97	255	242	238
E.	PENDING END OF YEAR				
	Merit Appeals	330	322	350	342
	Sentence Appeals	101	96	82	124
	Petitions	17	18	11	19
	Originals	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	449	436	443	486

[a]The figures for cases pending at the end of one year plus the next year's filings minus dispositions do not always equal cases pending at the end of the following year due to reclassification and corrections. See footnotes a and b to Table I.

[b]Includes reinstatements.

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

TABLE X

REASONS FOR CASES PENDING - JUNE 30, 1985

	MERIT APPEALS			SENTENCE APPEALS			PETITIONS			ORIGINAL APPLICATIONS	TOTAL
	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior	Direct from Superior	Direct from District	From District via Superior		
Awaiting record	55	13		8	5						81
Awaiting briefs	78	14		31	2		3	2			130
Awaiting hearing/ submission		1		4	1		1				7
With central staff											0
Not with central staff											0
Awaiting draft disposition	59	32		54	1		3	2		1	152
Draft disposition circulating	38	12		12			6				68
Awaiting decision on granting petition											0
Decision on Rehearing	19	2		5							26
Stayed or remanded	15	4		1			2				22
TOTAL:	264	78		115	9		15	4		1	486

ALASKA COURT OF APPEALS

LENGTH OF TIME TO DISPOSITION - TABLE XI

(Average Number of Days)

Appeals Closed by Opinion or Unpublished Disposition on the Merits

	July 1984-June 1985				July 1983- June 1984			
	Felony Merit	Misdemeanor Merit	Felony Sentence	Misdemeanor Sentence	Felony Merit	Misdemeanor Merit	Felony Sentence	Misdemeanor Sentence
Notice of Appeal to Record Certification	100	29	28	23	87	36	29	25
Record certification to Last Brief	140	88	54	90	151	69	56	38
Last Brief to Argument or Submission	65	64	18	11	64	43	23	16
Argument or Submission to Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation	105	86	89	71	103	111	100	80
Circulation of Draft Opinion or Recommendation to Publication	52	48	45	32	73	48	45	41
Publication to Closing	25	24	18	16	27	23	19	19
TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS	487	339	262	243	505	330	272	238
Shortest Total Number of Days	129	90	69	119	95	117	84	99
Longest Total Number of Days	885	657	585	518	1566	584	647	350
Number of Cases Averaged	(159)	(86)	(92)	(13)	(161)	(75)	(120)	(13)

FY 1985 AND THE TRIAL COURTS

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FY 1985 and the Trial Courts

New Judges

During FY 85 there were several changes in the trial court judiciary. In the superior court, Rene J. Gonzalez and Joan M. Katz were appointed to two newly created positions on the Anchorage bench on November 8, 1984, by Governor Sheffield. Swearing-in ceremonies for both judges were conducted on January 3, 1985. On January 2, 1985, Anchorage Superior Court Judge Ralph E. Moody, who had the longest tenure of any trial judge in Alaska, retired after 22 years on the bench. On January 31, 1985, Peter A. Michalski was selected to fill the vacancy created by Judge Moody's retirement.

On February 4, 1985, Mary E. Greene was appointed to the superior court bench in Fairbanks to fill the position vacated by the retirement of Judge Warren W. Taylor. Judge Taylor had served on the bench for 20 years.

Anchorage Superior Court Judges Joan Katz and Rene Gonzalez

Retired Superior Court Judge Ralph E. Moody

On June 30, 1985, Wrangell/Petersburg Judge Henry C. Keene, Jr. retired after 19 years of service. Thomas M. Jahnke was appointed to fill this vacancy in May 1985.

Five new district court judges were appointed to the bench in FY 85. On November 8, 1984, Governor Sheffield appointed Martha Beckwith, David Stewart, Ralph Stemp and Michael White to district court judgeships in Anchorage. On February 4, 1985, Christopher E. Zimmerman was selected to fill the Fairbanks position vacated by Judge Stephen R. Cline, who did not run for retention in the November 1984 general election.

At the end of FY 85, all superior and district court judgeships authorized by the legislature were filled.

Presiding Judges

In January of each year, the chief justice of the supreme court designates a superior court judge to be the presiding judge in each of the four judicial districts. During FY 85, Chief Justice Jay Rabinowitz made several changes in presiding judge assignments. In the third judicial district Judge Douglas Serdahely was selected to replace Judge Mark Rowland, who was on sabbatical leave for part of FY 85. Judge Jay Hodges was appointed as presiding judge of the fourth judicial district, succeeding Judge Gerald J. Van Hoomissen, who had served as presiding judge since January 1982. Judges Charles Tunley (second judicial district) and Thomas E. Schulz (first judicial district) were reappointed as presiding judges for their respective districts.

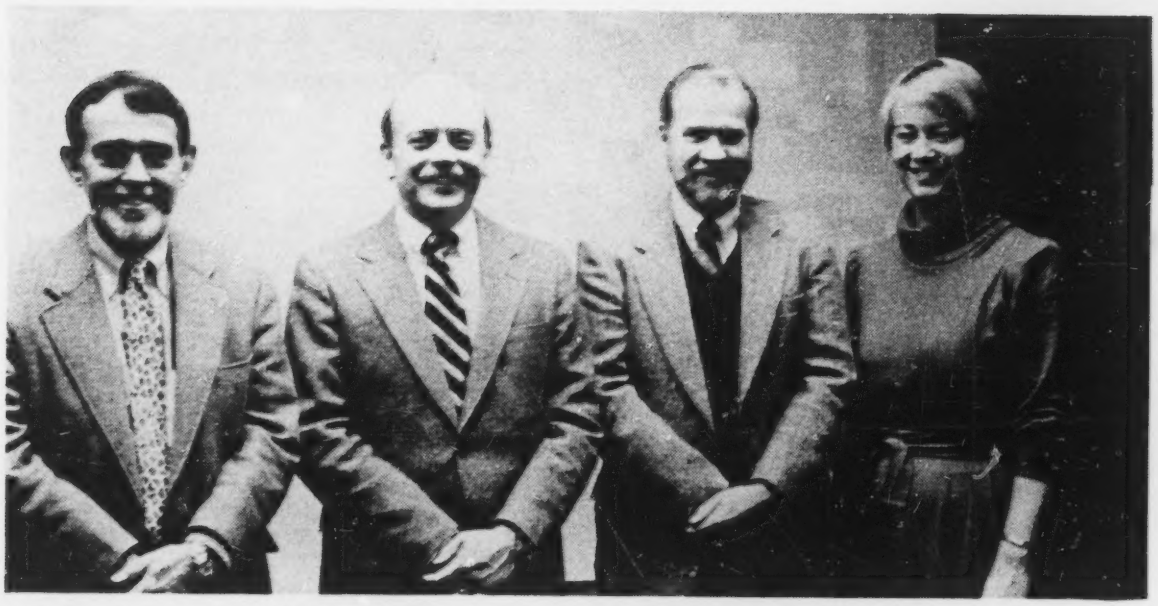
Training Judges and Deputy Training Judges

Each calendar year the chief justice selects judges from each judicial district to assist the presiding judge in the training and evaluation of magistrates. In January 1985, training judge appointments were made to Superior Court Judge Duane Craske, first district; Superior Court Judge Paul Jones, second district; Superior Court Judge John Bosshard, III and District Court Judge Glen Anderson, third district; and Superior Court Judge Gerald Van Hoomissen, fourth district.

Deputy Training Judge
Linda Hartshorn

In January 1985, Magistrate Linda Hartshorn of Wrangell was appointed deputy training judge for the first district and Magistrate Earl "Skip" Slater was appointed deputy training judge for the fourth district. Deputy training judges assist the training judges in their districts.

Deputy Training Judge
"Skip" Slater



AREA COURT ADMINISTRATORS: LEFT TO RIGHT: Mac Gibson, Fourth District; Al Szal, Third District; Michael Hall, Second District; Kris Carlisle, First District.

Area Court Administrators

Kristen Carlisle has been area court administrator for the first judicial district since January 1983. Mike Hall is the area court administrator for the second district; he has held this position since July 1981. Al Szal has been the area court administrator for the third judicial district since June 1980 and Mac Gibson has been area court administrator for the fourth district since August 1981.

Clerks' Conferences

During the week of February 25, 1985, clerks of court from around the state met in Anchorage for the sixth statewide clerks' conference. The conference was organized by Susan Miller, Manager of Special Projects.

A number of procedural issues were discussed at the conference, including service of process problems, criminal judgments and records of conviction, prearraignment release from jail, post-conviction relief, fugitive from justice procedures, execution procedures, temporary transfers of files and changes of venue. A training session on constructive and progressive discipline was held for supervisors, while nonsupervisors attended a class on dealing with the public.

Clerks in the first judicial district met in Juneau in May 1985 to receive special training in management, communication and leadership. They held a joint session with first district judges to integrate and standardize procedures throughout the first district.

Reopened Courts

During FY 85 the Pelican magistrate court was reopened by permission of the supreme court upon request from the City of Pelican. The post had been vacant for five years. Kimberly M. Daniels was appointed as magistrate for the Pelican court in October 1984.

Pelican Magistrate Kim Daniels

In December 1984 Christopher Sullivan was appointed magistrate for Whittier. The Whittier district court had been closed since January 1983.

Third District Superior Court Appeals Division

In March 1985, Presiding Judge Douglas Serdahely created a superior court appeals division for the third district. The new division will handle the processing of administrative appeals and appeals from small claims and other district court cases. Judge Serdahely appointed John Bosshard, III of Valdez as deputy presiding judge for the new division. Judges Roy Madsen of Kodiak and Peter Michalski of Anchorage will serve in the division.

The Anchorage Court

The Anchorage court, which serves the state's largest city, has consistently faced special problems because of its high caseload. During FY 85 the Anchorage court undertook a number of reorganizational changes designed to facilitate movement of cases through the system and to make the court more responsive to public needs.

In January 1985 the presiding judge created a superior court family division to handle all domestic relations matters, children's proceedings and probate matters. As deputy presiding judge of the new division, Judge Victor Carlson calendars all matters assigned to the division, reviews cases handled by the Anchorage masters, and supervises pro tem judges assigned to the family division. Judge Karl Johnstone was appointed deputy presiding judge of the superior court criminal division and is responsible for implementing and monitoring a new early assignment individual calendaring system which replaced the master calendaring system previously used by the criminal division. Judge Brian Shortell, deputy presiding judge of the superior court civil division, maintains statistical information and oversees the coordination of overset cases. Judge Shortell also handles the administrative matters of the division.

The Anchorage court also reorganized the front counter in the clerk's office this fiscal year in an effort to provide more efficient service to the public. Previously, one person from each of the three divisions (criminal, civil and records) was assigned to the front counter. Persons needing information were required to stand in different lines depending on the type of information sought. Under the new system, all persons working the front counter are crosstrained and can assist with any type of inquiry.

Anchorage DWI Project

During FY 85 the Alaska Department of Public Safety, Highway Safety Planning Agency funded a special "driving while intoxicated" (DWI) project with a one-year grant. The court system, the district attorney's office and the office of the public defender participated in this project. The project was designed to expedite through the court system increasing numbers of state DWI cases in the Anchorage area. The grant was used to establish and fund a project team consisting of a district court judge, a district attorney, a public defender and support staff. At the time of arraignment, the files of individuals charged by the state with DWI were identified and channelled to the team for handling in accord with project guidelines. Based on statistics prepared during the project period of September 1984 through March 1985, the average time from arrest through trial decreased to 74 days, from 141 days for DWI cases handled through conventional processes in FY 82. The average time from arrest to disposition prior to trial was reduced to 45 days, from 90 days in FY 82. Because of the success of the program it has been funded by the Department of Public Safety for continuation.

Student Loan Defaults

During FY 85 the State Department of Education contracted with an Anchorage law firm to file law suits for the collection of student loans in default. More than 3,000 collection cases have been filed since December 1984. Those cases represent collection efforts for loans which have been in default for the past several years. In addition to the old cases, approximately 150 to 200 cases are now filed each month on loans which become delinquent. Most of the cases are filed as small claims. The filing of such a large number of additional small claims cases has impacted the entire clerical operation of the trial courts in Anchorage. The Department of Education has renewed its contract with the law firm, and it is anticipated that these cases will continue to be filed at the rate of approximately 2,000 to 3,000 per year.

TRIAL COURTS STATISTICAL SUMMARY — FY 85

This section of the annual report summarizes FY 85 trial court statistics.

Comprehensive statistical tables describing the superior and district court caseloads in FY 85 are located in the statistical supplement at the back of this report. Any questions about caseloads may be directed to the administrative office of the Alaska Court System.

The Alaska trial courts, consisting of the superior and district courts, have jurisdiction over all civil, criminal and children's matters filed in the State of Alaska (excluding cases exclusively within the jurisdiction of the federal courts). In FY 85 the superior court workload increased by 6%, while cases filed in the district court increased by only 1%. However, this 1% overall increase in district court filings understates the increase in district court workload because non-traffic matters (which require significantly more judicial and clerical resources) increased by 15% while traffic filings decreased by 7%.

Table 1 provides summary caseload statistics for each superior and higher volume district court location for fiscal year 1985.

TABLE I
ALASKA TRIAL COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 85
7/1/84 - 6/30/85

Court Location	SUPERIOR COURTS Filings	% of S.C. Total	DISTRICT COURTS Non-Traffic Filings	(1) Traffic Filings	Total	% of D.C. Total	TOTALS Total Filings	% of State Total
Anchorage	11,602	53.6%	22,850	47,142	69,992	48.9%	81,594	49.5%
Barrow	285	1.3%	508	66	574	.4%	859	.5%
Bethel	469	2.2%	1,148	437	1,585	1.1%	2,054	1.2%
Cordova			329	172	501	.4%	501	.3%
Craig			367	252	619	.4%	619	.4%
Delta Jct.			209	537	746	.5%	746	.5%
Dillingham			603	214	817	.6%	817	.5%
Fairbanks	3,448	15.9%	5,670	8,990	14,660	10.3%	18,108	11.0%
Glennallen			443	439	882	.6%	882	.5%
Healy			129	260	389	.3%	389	.2%
Homer			1,078	1,701	2,779	1.9%	2,779	1.7%
Juneau	1,211	5.6%	4,310	3,404	7,714	5.4%	8,925	5.4%
Kenai	928	4.3%	2,823	4,747	7,570	5.3%	8,498	5.2%
Ketchikan	813	3.8%	1,760	2,809	4,669	3.3%	5,482	3.3%
Kodiak	455	2.1%	1,178	2,555	3,733	2.6%	4,188	2.5%
Kotzebue	263	1.2%	950	159	1,109	.8%	1,372	.8%
Nome	330	1.5%	624	190	814	.6%	1,144	.7%
Palmer	1,148	5.3%	3,551	8,049	11,600	8.1%	12,748	7.8%
Seward			705	2,416	3,121	2.2%	3,121	1.9%
Sitka	322	1.5%	794	1,577	2,371	1.7%	2,693	1.6%
Tok			295	749	1,044	.7%	1,044	.6%
Unalaska			261	168	429	.3%	429	.3%
Valdez	133	0.6%	356	387	743	.5%	876	.5%
Wrangell/	219	1.0%	362	237	599	.4%	818	.5%
Petersburg	(2)		356	242	598	.4%	598	.4%
Subtotal	21,626	100.0%	51,659	87,999	139,658	97.7%	161,284	98.1%
Lower Volume Courts	-	-	2,510	778	3,288	2.3%	3,288	1.9%
TOTALS	21,626	100.0%	54,169	88,777	142,946	100%	164,572	100.0%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FIRST	2,565	11.8%	8,679	8,748	17,427	12.3%	19,992	12.2%
SECOND	878	4.1%	2,373	424	2,797	1.9%	3,675	2.2%
THIRD	14,266	65.9%	34,746	68,350	103,096	71.1%	117,362	71.3%
FOURTH	3,917	18.2%	8,371	11,255	19,626	13.7%	23,543	14.3%

(1) Traffic case dispositions are used as filings in district court.
(2) Wrangell & Petersburg operate a combined superior court but separate district courts.

SUPERIOR COURT

Jurisdiction

The superior court is the trial court of general jurisdiction, with original jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters. Appeals to the superior court from final judgments of the district court are a matter of right. The superior court has exclusive jurisdiction in all domestic relations matters, children's proceedings, probate, guardianship and civil commitments.[1]

FY 85 Caseload - Superior Courts

Superior court case filings statewide increased 6% from FY 84. Total dispositions increased by 16%. While cases are still being filed in the state's superior courts at a rate faster than available judicial resources can decide them, this marks the second year that overall dispositions have increased from the preceding year. A significant change during FY 85 was the increase in the ratio of "cases disposed of" to "cases filed" from 78% to 86%.

During FY 85, the Valdez superior court, created in 1984, was fully operational. Two additional superior court positions were filled in January 1985.

Table II provides summary caseload statistics for each superior court location for fiscal year 1985.

[1]For more information about superior court jurisdiction see Profile, supra.

TABLE II
SUPERIOR COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 85
7/1/84 - 6/30/85

Court	FY 85 Filings	FY 85 Dispositions	Percent Change in Filings From FY84	Ratio of Dispositions to Filings FY84	FY85
Anchorage	11,602	9,491	+ 9%	76%	82%
Barrow	285	213	+14%	88%	75%
Bethel	469	465	+11%	86%	99%
Fairbanks	3,448	3,632	- 4%	79%	105%
Juneau	1,211	977	+ 3%	76%	81%
Kenai	928	873	- 2%	76%	94%
Ketchikan	813	616	0%	86%	76%
Kodiak	455	290	+ 6%	77%	64%
Kotzebue	263	300	-22%	99%	114%
Nome	330	263	+15%	103%	80%
Palmer	1,148	825	+32%	70%	72%
Sitka	322	334	-17%	82%	104%
Valdez(1)	133	97	(1)	(1)	73%
Wrangell/(2) Petersburg	219	185	+12%	71%	84%
TOTALS	21,626	18,561	+ 6%	78%	86%

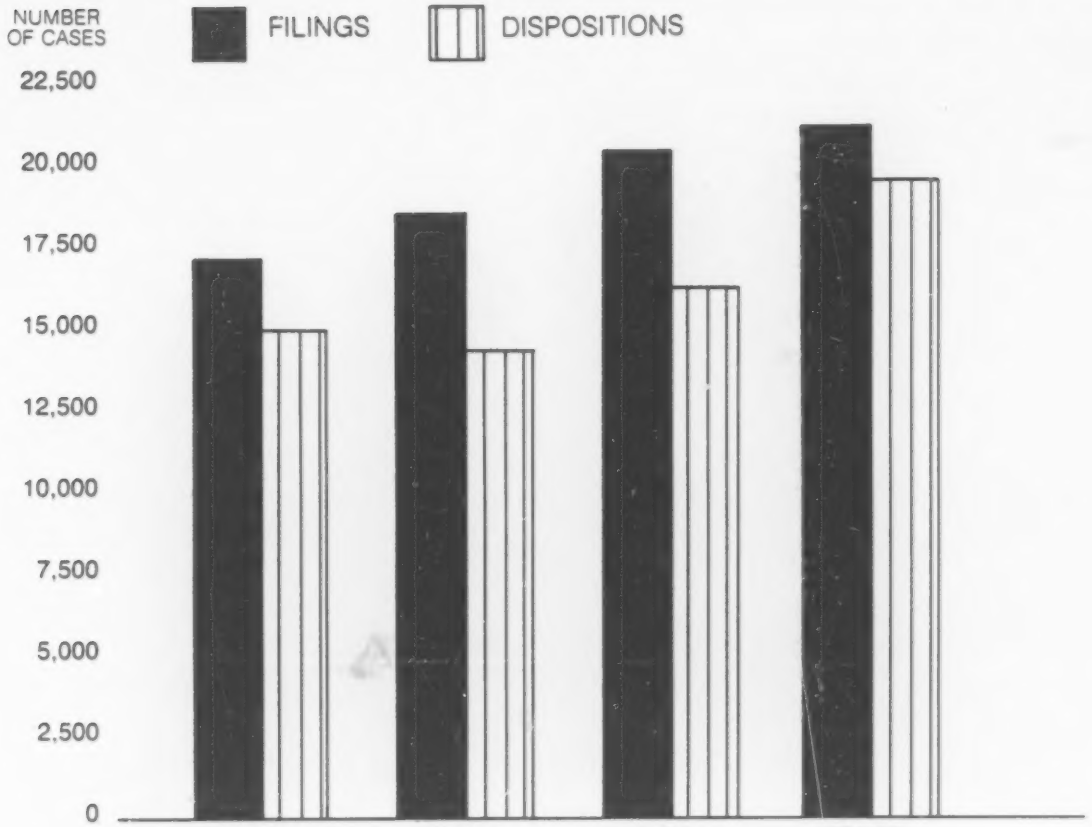
BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2,565	2,112	0%	80%	82%
Second	878	776	0%	97%	88%
Third	14,266	11,576	+11%	76%	81%
Fourth	3,917	4,097	- 5%	80%	105%

(1) Valdez was upgraded to a superior court in FY84 but did not commence operations until FY85.
(2) Wrangell & Petersburg operate a combined superior court but separate district courts.

TABLE III

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS & DISPOSTIONS
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Filings	17,168	18,364	20,460	21,626
Dispositions	14,680	14,570	15,948	18,561

Table III shows changes in superior court filings and dispositions since FY 82. Total filings have increased by 26% and total dispositions have increased by 26%.

Table IV analyzes the types of cases filed in superior court during FY 85. The largest category of superior court cases continues to be domestic relations, with 44% of total case filings.

Within the general category of domestic relations, domestic violence cases make up 24% of the domestic relations workload and approximately 10% of the overall superior court workload. During FY 85, domestic violence cases increased by 7%, a lesser increase than the 32% increase reported in FY 84.

Filings of felony cases in superior courts decreased by 3% during FY 85. This rate of decline was fairly uniform statewide. For the fourth year, felony cases where the primary charge involved violence or drugs accounted for over half (57%) of all felony filings.

Filings of children's proceedings in superior courts decreased by 23% from FY 84 levels.

TABLE IV

SUPERIOR COURTS
CASELOAD COMPOSITION FY 85

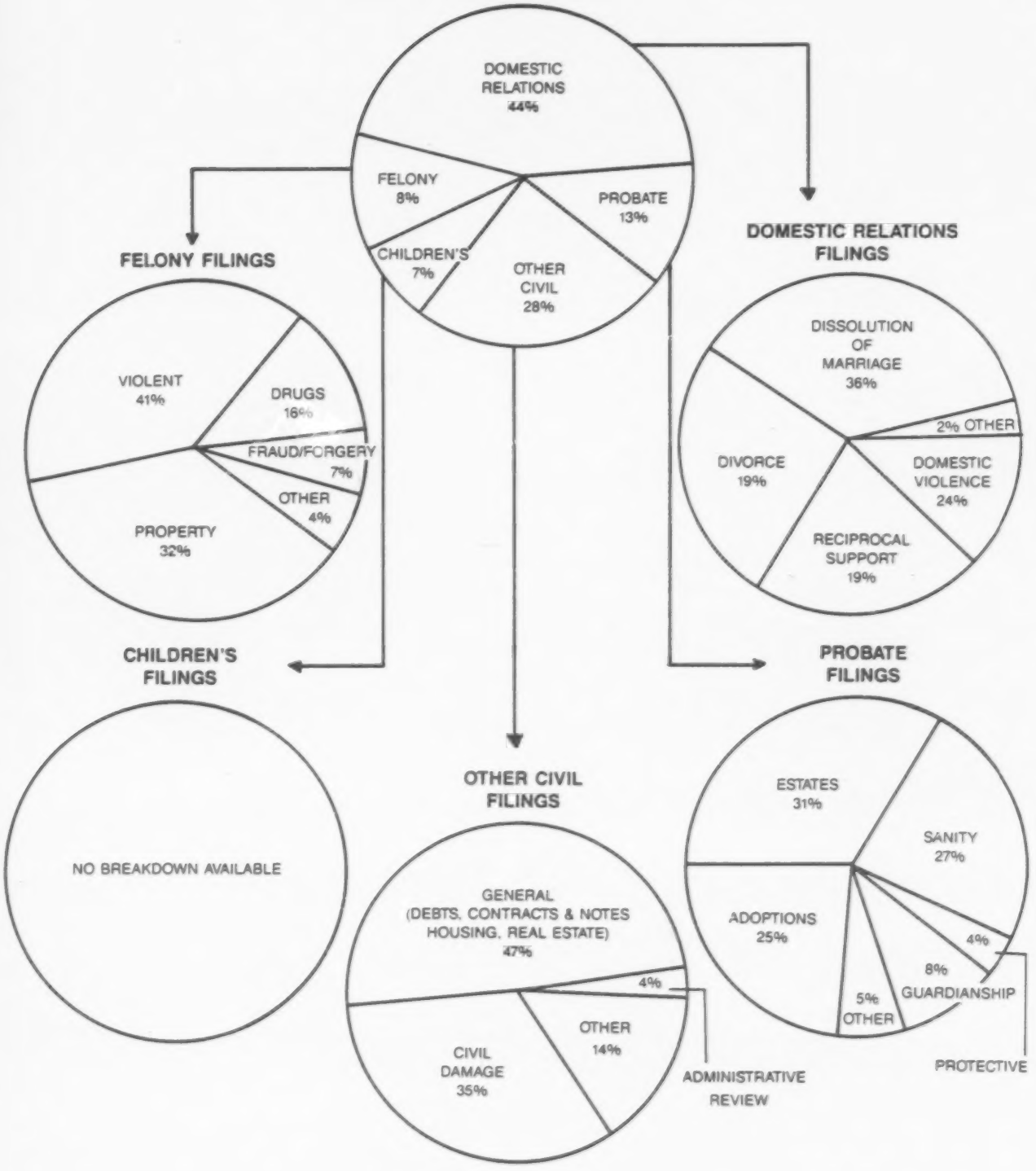
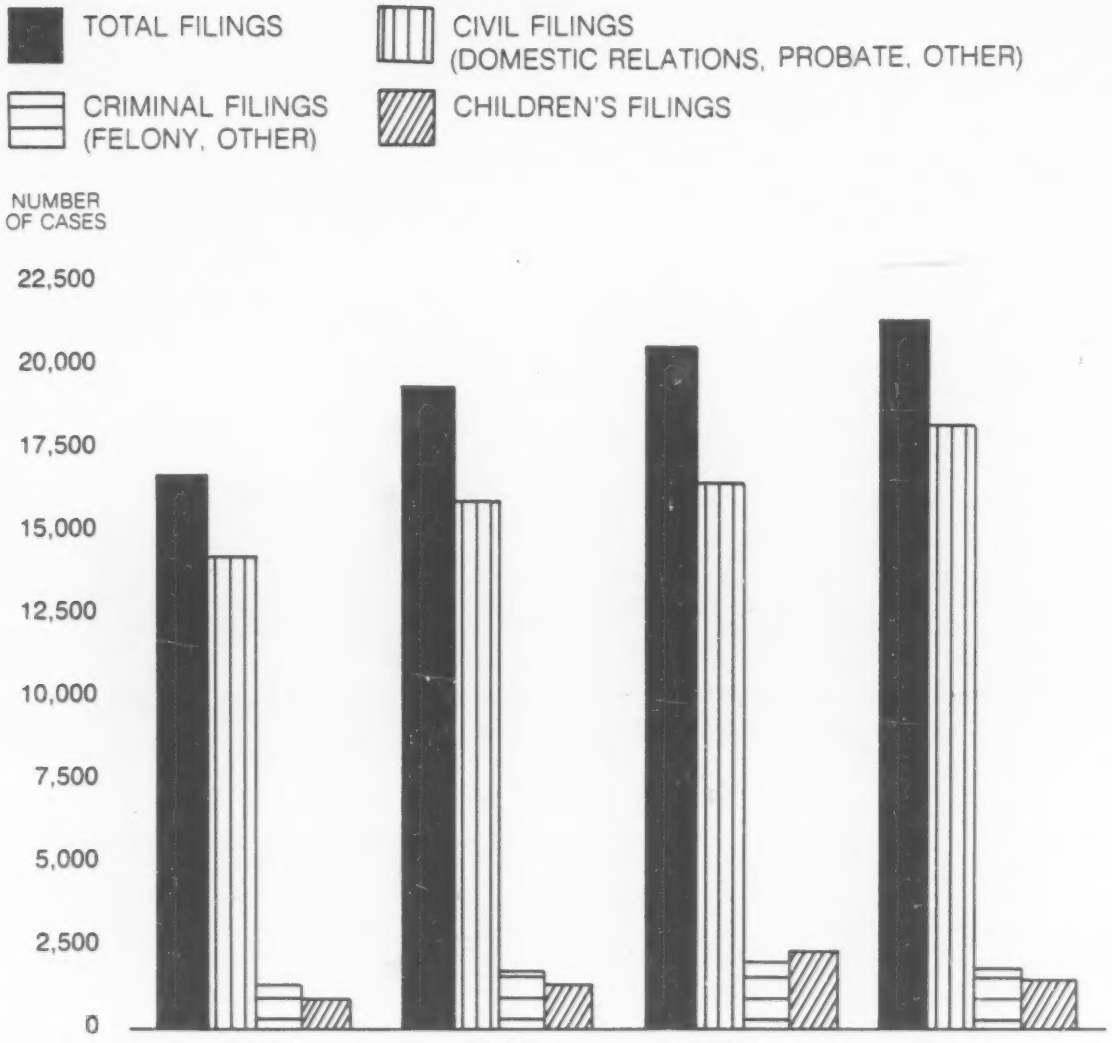


Table V shows the general composition of cases filed in superior courts since FY 82 based on the major categories of civil, criminal and children's proceedings.

Since FY 82, total civil case filings have increased by 26%, children's proceedings have increased by 20% and criminal (felony) case filings have increased by 35%.

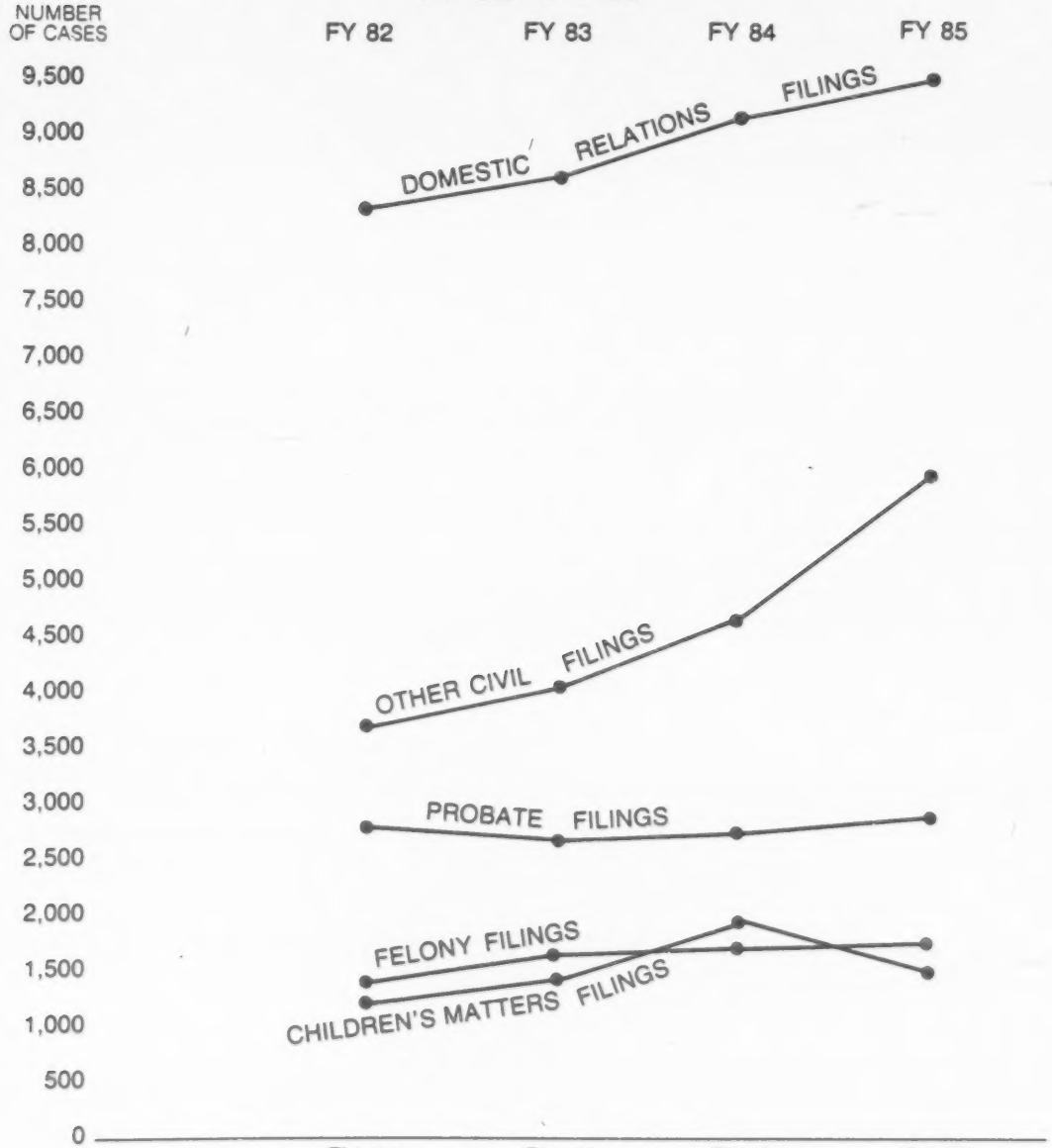
TABLE V
SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF CASELOAD
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Civil Filings	14,581	15,260	16,630	18,315
Criminal Filings	1,317	1,607	1,846	1,782
Children's Filings	1,270	1,497	1,984	1,529
Total Filings	17,168	18,364	20,460	21,626

Table VI shows significant increases in case filings in all specific case categories since FY 82: domestic relations (+ 14%), general civil cases (+ 65%), probate (+ 8%), children's proceedings (+ 20%) and criminal (+ 35%).

TABLE VI
SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Domestic Rel.	8,257	8,546	9,102	9,408
Other Civil	3,629	4,138	4,748	5,996
Probate	2,695	2,576	2,780	2,911
Felony	1,317	1,607	1,846	1,782
Children's	1,270	1,497	1,984	1,529

DISTRICT COURT

Jurisdiction

In criminal matters, the district court has jurisdiction over state misdemeanor violations and violations of ordinances of political subdivisions. In civil matters, during FY 85 and in prior years, the district court could hear cases for recovery of money or damages not exceeding $10,000 and for recovery of specific personal property not exceeding $10,000 in value. In motor vehicle tort cases, civil jurisdiction in district court was $15,000. Legislation passed in 1985 increased the civil jurisdiction of district courts to $25,000. In addition, district court judges now have authority to hear domestic violence cases previously heard only in superior courts. These changes became effective July 1, 1985.

Magistrate posts have been created in the smaller, generally rural areas of the state. They have also been established in metropolitan areas to handle routine matters and to ease the workload of the district court. In criminal matters, magistrates may give judgment of conviction upon a plea of guilty to any state misdemeanor, may try state misdemeanor cases if the defendant waives his right to a district court judge, and may hear municipal ordinance violations without consent of the accused. In formal civil cases, magistrates may award damages up to $1,000 (in small claims cases up to $2,000). Magistrates have emergency authority in children's matters.[1]

[1]For more information about district court and magistrate jurisdiction, see Profile, supra.

FY 83 Caseload - District Courts

District court statistics are separated into two categories: high and low volume courts. There are approximately 40 magistrates in locations that are identified as lower volume courts.

Because traffic citation cases are not reported to the administrative office until they have reached a final disposition, the number of filings for traffic matters in a year generally understates the court's actual workload. Consequently, wherever filing data is required to assess the overall workload of the courts, traffic disposition data have been substituted for traffic filing data. This is true of all tables and charts in this report.

During FY 85, the statewide caseload in district courts increased by approximately 1%. Non-Traffic case filings increased by 16% but these numbers were offset by a 6% decrease in traffic citation filings. Table VII summarizes caseload statistics for district court locations in fiscal year 1985.

TABLE VII
DISTRICT COURTS
CASELOAD SUMMARY FY 85
7/1/84 - 6/30/85

Court Location	Non Traffic Filings	% Change From FY83	(1) Traffic Filings	% Change From FY83	Total Filings	% Change From FY84	Ratio Disposed to Filed FY84	Ratio Disposed to Filed FY85
Anchorage	22,850	+29%	47,142	-12%	69,992	- 2%	95%	88%
Barrow	508	0%	66	+230%	574	+19%	87%	86%
Bethel	1,148	+56%	437	- 6%	1,585	+32%	96%	95%
Cordova	329	-26%	172	+38%	501	-12%	99%	95%
Craig	367	+39%	252	+51%	619	+44%	98%	95%
Delta Jct.	209	- 5%	537	+25%	746	+15%	97%	96%
Dillingham	603	+47%	214	- 4%	817	+29%	105%	93%
Fairbanks	5,670	- 2%	8,990	-39%	14,660	-29%	98%	94%
Glennallen	443	- 1%	439	+56%	882	+21%	79%	96%
Healy	129	+18%	260	-45%	389	-33%	100%	90%
Homer	1,078	+ 2%	1,701	+19%	2,779	+12%	95%	89%
Juneau	4,310	+18%	3,404	+32%	7,714	+24%	92%	87%
Kenai	2,823	- 1%	4,747	- 9%	7,570	- 6%	96%	99%
Ketchikan	1,760	- 4%	2,809	+13%	4,669	+ 6%	98%	96%
Kodiak	1,178	- 4%	2,515	+28%	3,733	+16%	99%	101%
Kotzebue	950	- 1%	159	+46%	1,109	+ 4%	93%	103%
Nome	624	+15%	190	+36%	814	+19%	103%	86%
Palmer	3,551	+35%	8,049	+62%	11,600	+52%	92%	92%
Petersburg	356	+16%	242	- 1%	598	+ 9%	93%	104%
Seward	705	+47%	2,416	+31%	3,121	+34%	96%	99%
Sitka	794	-21%	1,577	+11%	2,371	- 2%	102%	103%
Tok	295	+ 1%	749	- 1%	1,044	- 1%	99%	96%
Unalaska	261	- 9%	168	+89%	429	+14%	112%	91%
Valdez	356	-39%	387	+ 9%	743	-20%	94%	108%
Wrangell	362	-18%	237	-11%	599	-15%	96%	85%
Subtotal	51,659	+15%	87,999	- 7%	139,658	0%	96%	91%
Lower Volume Courts	2,510	+33%	778	+31%	3,288	+32%	79%	74%
TOTALS	54,169	+16%	88,777	- 6%	142,946	+ 1%	95%	91%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FIRST	8,679	+ 9%	8,748	+20%	17,427	+14%	95%	91%
SECOND	2,373	- 2%	424	+63%	2,797	+ 4%	88%	92%
THIRD	34,746	+21%	68,350	- 2%	103,096	+14%	95%	90%
FOURTH	8,371	+ 9%	11,255	-35%	19,626	-21%	98%	93%

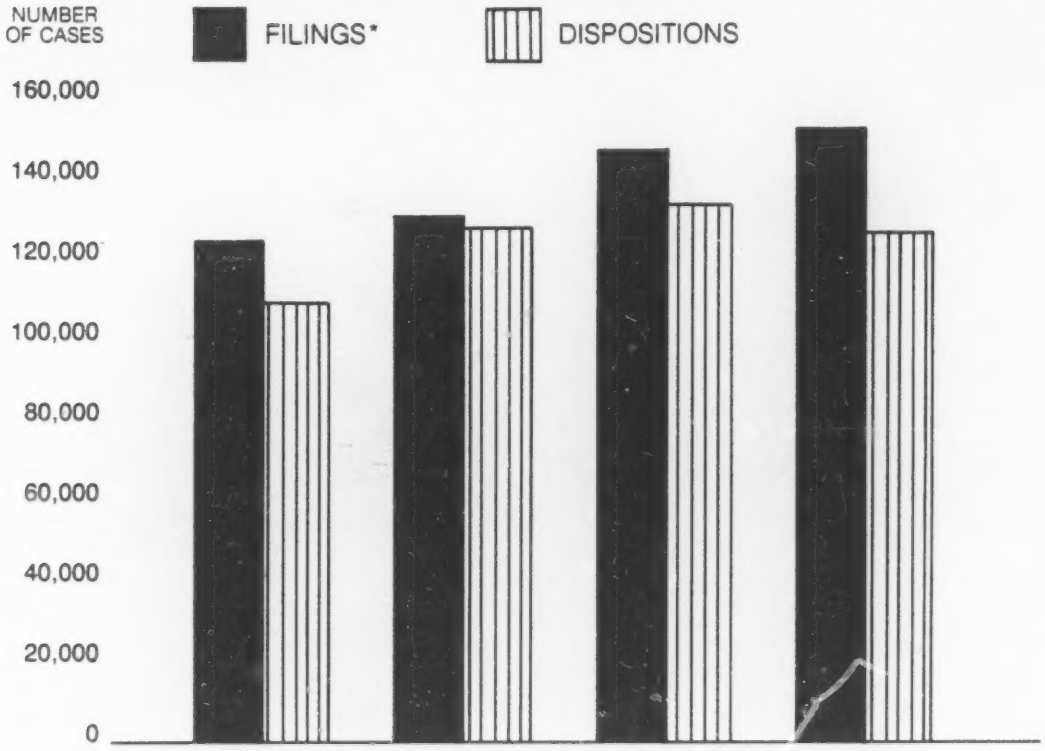
(1) Traffic case dispositions are used as filings in district court.

TABLE VIII

DISTRICT COURTS

(High and Low Volume)

SUMMARY OF FILINGS & DISPOSTIONS
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Filings	121,376	133,176	141,606	142,946
Dispositions	114,061	130,513	134,893	129,971

*Traffic case dispositions are a more accurate indicator of actual workload than traffic filings. Therefore, traffic case dispositions are used for both filing and disposition data above. For all other case types, filings data were used as indicated.

As shown in Table VIII, total district court filings have increased by 18% since FY 82, while total dispositions have increased by 14%.

Table IX analyzes the composition of cases filed in higher volume district courts during FY 85. Traffic citations were the largest category of district court cases, accounting for 63% of the total caseload. The 37% of the caseload that was non-traffic cases was comprised of 54% criminal cases and 46% civil cases. The percentage of non-traffic cases that were civil cases increased significantly this year over FY 84.

This increase was due to a 33% increase in small claims case filings statewide and the filing of approximately 3,450 student loan cases in the Anchorage district court.

In FY 85, misdemeanor cases represent 50% of the non-traffic caseload and approximately 19% of the total district court caseload. Approximately 29% of all misdemeanor cases involve driving while intoxicated (DWI). Statewide, misdemeanor case filings decreased by 3% in FY 85.

TABLE IX

DISTRICT COURTS (High Volume Courts)
CASELOAD COMPOSITION FY 85

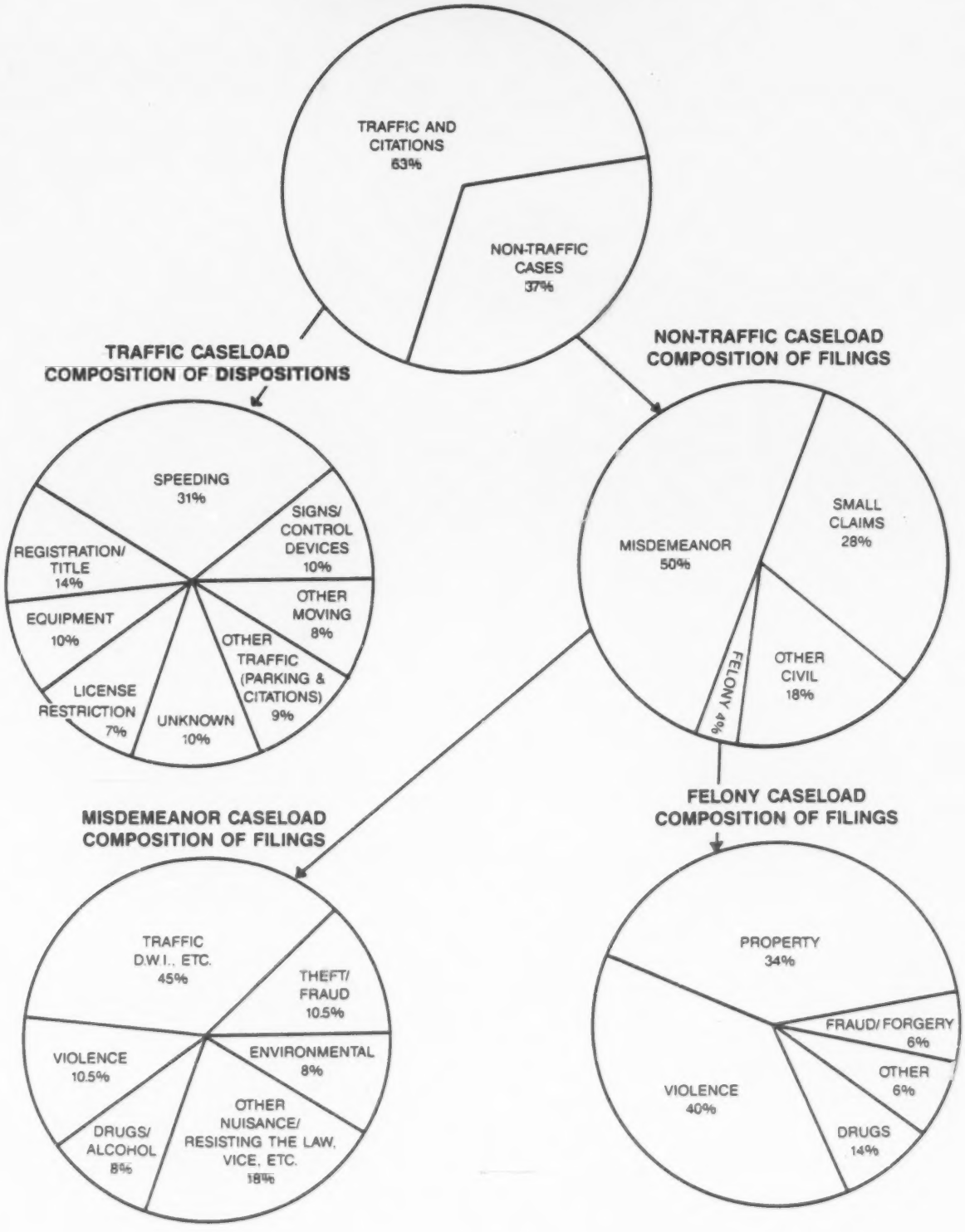
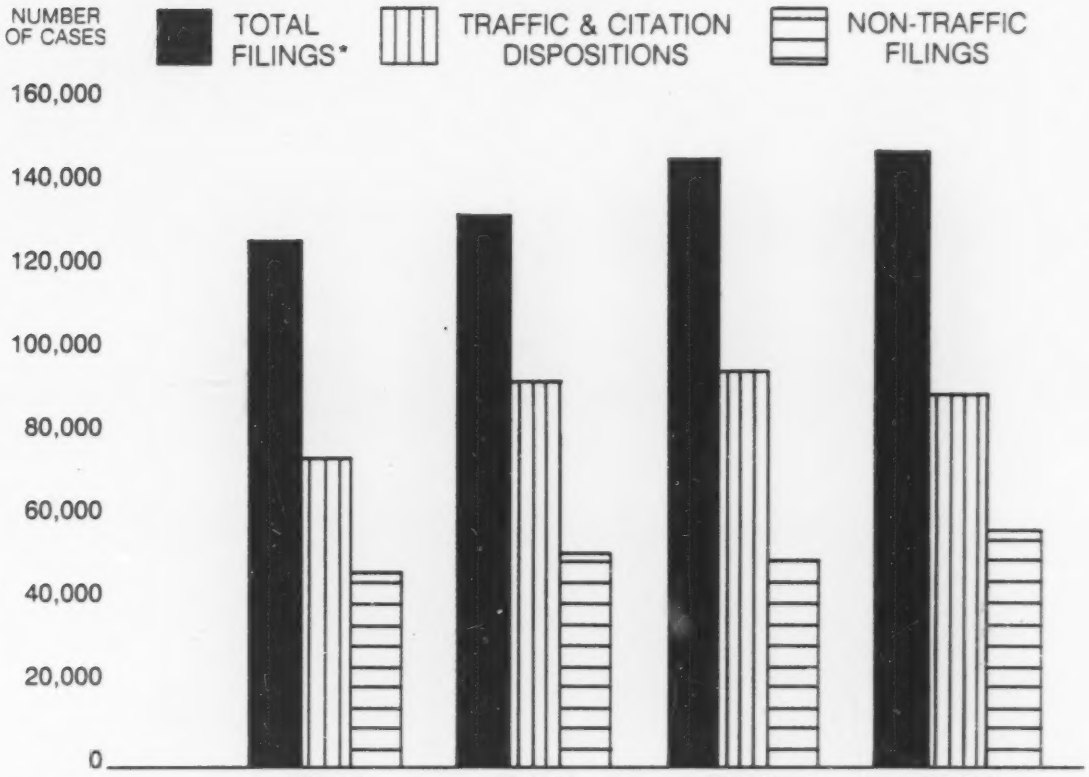


TABLE X

DISTRICT COURTS

(High and Low Volume)

SUMMARY OF CASELOAD
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Traffic Dispositions*	78,080	89,281	94,882	88,777
Non-Traffic Filings	43,296	43,895	46,724	54,169
Total Caseload	121,376	133,176	141,606	142,946

*Traffic case dispositions are a more accurate indicator of actual workload than traffic filings. For non-traffic cases, actual filings data were used.

Table X shows that in the major categories of traffic and non-traffic matters, non-traffic matters have increased steadily for a total increase of 25% since FY 82. Traffic citation filings have fluctuated each year but have shown an overall 14% increase since FY 82.

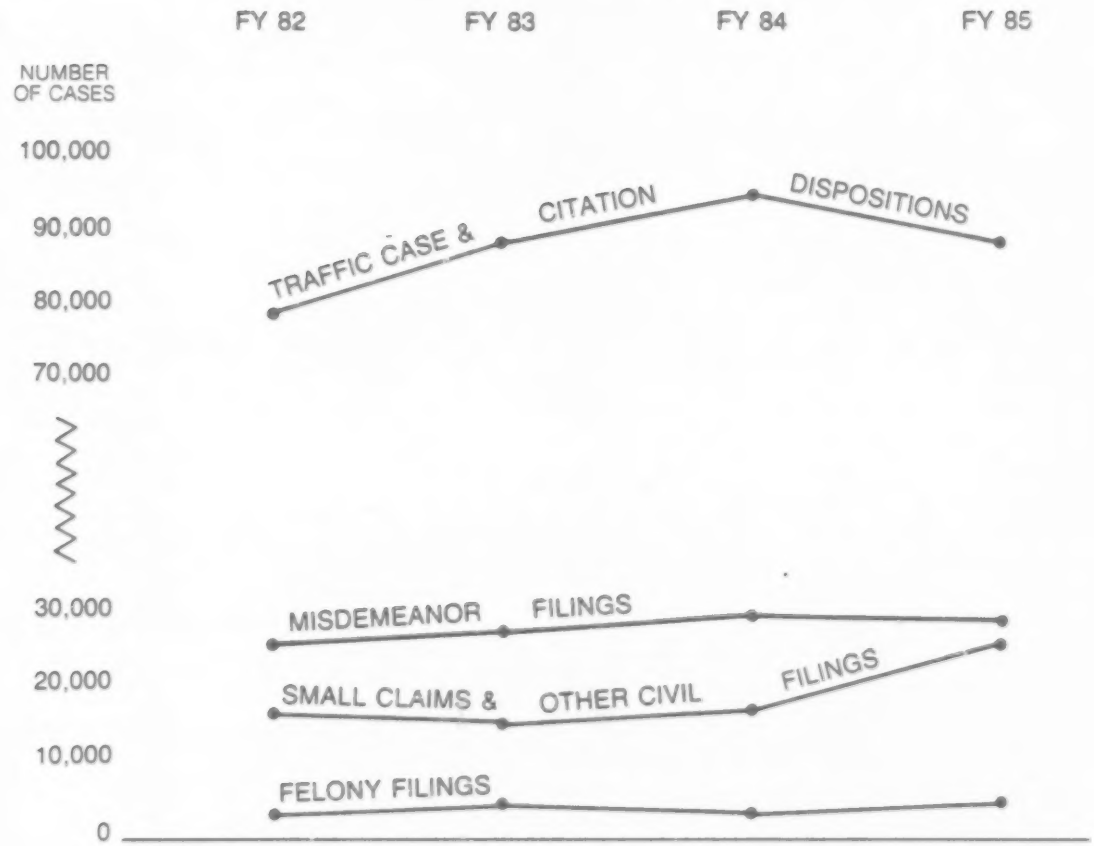
Non-traffic filings leveled off during FY 82 and FY 83. During FY 84 they increased just over 6% with half of the increase due to increased driving while intoxicated (DWI) filings. During FY 85, non-traffic filings increased by 16%. Most of this increase is due to a combination of the 33% increase in small claims case filings and the 84% (4,146) case increase in "other civil" case filings. Of these "other civil" case filings, approximately 3,500 were student loan cases filed in the Anchorage district court.

TABLE XI

DISTRICT COURTS

(High and Low Volume)

SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY CASE TYPE
FY 82 - FY 85



	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85
Traffic Dispositions	78,080	89,281	94,882	88,777
Misdemeanor Filings	25,111	26,728	28,587	27,814
Small Claims and Other Civil Filings	16,147	14,805	16,028	24,046
Felony Filings	2,038	2,362	2,109	2,309
Total Filings	121,376	133,176	141,606	142,946

Changes in filings since FY 82 for specific case types are noted in Table XI. Misdemeanors, while up 11% overall, actually show a 3% drop from last year. Civil cases are up 49% (50% since last year). Traffic citation dispositions in district courts have fluctuated during the last 4 years. In FY 85 they decreased 6% from FY 84 levels. Felony filings have also fluctuated annually due to prosecutorial discretion in either filing a felony case in district court for preliminary hearing or seeking an indictment where the initial filing is in superior court. Overall, felony filings in district court have increased by 13% since FY 82.

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Special Reports

Technology and the Courts

Americans have become accustomed to the impact of rapid technological change. In the past few years, remarkable technological advances have changed the patterns of our lives. From arenas as complex as national defense and medicine, to applications as close to home as the vast variety of high-tech "gadgets" available in the consumer market, scientific advances have allowed us to do more than we have ever done before.

Technological applications have also impacted the face of the justice system. Justice has entered the age of computers and high technology. The court's decision-making process remains firmly rooted in the tenets of common law developed over hundreds of years, but today's courtroom and justice support systems are anything but Dickensian.

Technology not only allows courts to perform some functions qualitatively better, but also to perform these functions more efficiently and economically. The cost of justice has become an increasing concern in Alaska, where state revenues are projected to decline and yet vast distances and scattered population centers result in a high price tag for justice systems. The application of technological advances to court functions may allow the court, over time, to stem the increase in travel and personnel costs significantly.

However, there are problems associated with the use of sophisticated technological equipment in Alaska. Often the support systems upon which this equipment depends (for example, telephone services and steady electrical currents) are inadequate. Also, people sometimes expect new equipment to solve problems far beyond the logical scope of the equipment's capabilities. Even so, realistic projections indicate that the application of new technology to court processes will result in better and less expensive justice services.

Discussed below are some of the areas in which technological innovations affected court functions in FY 1985.

Closed Circuit Television Arraignments

In fall 1984 the Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with the court system, installed closed circuit television equipment with a microwave transmitter in a Fairbanks courtroom and the Fairbanks jail. Use of this equipment allows criminal defendants in the jail to be arraigned by a judge in the courthouse and eliminates the need for transportation of in-custody defendants. The first closed circuit television arraignment in Alaska was conducted using this system on November 6, 1984.

Both human and technical issues have been raised about this new system. Judges have been concerned about the effect of televised proceedings on the rights of defendants. The ability of a defendant to confer with the defendant's court-appointed counsel who is in the courtroom while the defendant is at the jail has been particularly troublesome. A special arrangement of telephones in a confidential environment is being explored to address this problem. There have been a variety of technical concerns, most of which appear to be solvable by the use of different or more finely-tuned equipment.

It appears that the use of this system will save state money. The Department of Public Safety is no longer required to provide trained officers to escort prisoners to and from the courthouse. Significant personnel costs may therefore be avoided.

A survey of in-custody defendants revealed that they strongly preferred to be arraigned over the closed-circuit televised link, thus avoiding the trip to the courthouse.

The system is being used on an experimental basis at present. Evaluations of the use of closed-circuit television are currently underway and should be completed by December 1985. Similar installations are being considered for Juneau and Anchorage.

Videotaped Advisement of Rights

When a criminal defendant first appears in court, the defendant is told of his or her "rights", that is, the constraints and obligations that the law places on the court's treatment of the defendant. For example, the defendant is advised of the right to be represented by an attorney and the right against self-incrimination, and the defendant is told about the court's procedures.

In the Anchorage and Fairbanks district courts, defendants are arraigned in groups at the same time each day. Both of these courts now utilize a videotape to advise defendants of their rights. Department of Public Safety personnel worked with the local district court judges to produce a videotape particularly tailored to each court's individual needs.

Special equipment was installed to allow the display of these videotapes on a large screen in one courtroom at each location. The Anchorage court uses a pull-down screen with a ceiling-mounted projector. In Fairbanks, the videotape is shown on the equipment used for the closed circuit television link to the Fairbanks jail.

The Anchorage videotape is approximately eleven minutes in length; the Fairbanks videotape is somewhat shorter. The Anchorage videotape

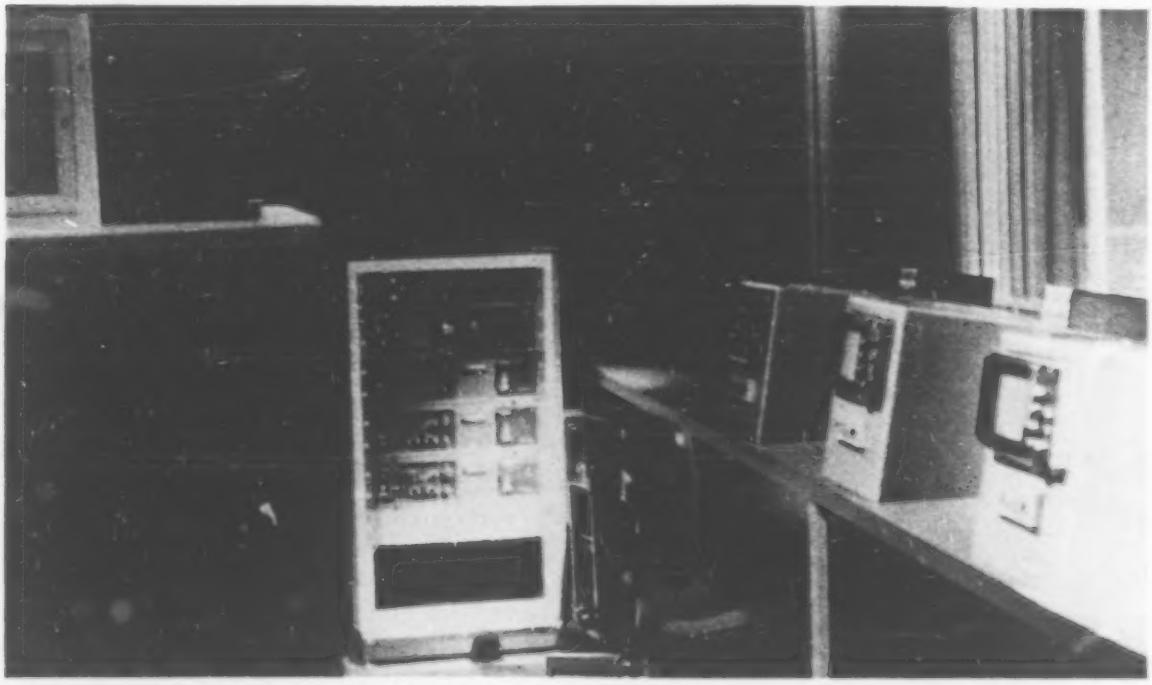
contains reenactments of attorney-client interactions, courtroom scenes and other relevant situations. The Fairbanks videotape is only of a judge advising defendants of their rights.

The use of the videotape provides both quality control and cost-saving advantages. The advisement of rights is done in a controlled, standard manner, thus obviating costly challenges and appeals brought by defendants who assert that judges in individualized advisement statements omitted or misstated required material. Care was taken to insure that the videotaped advisement is as clear and concise as possible. It is difficult to assess the comprehension level of defendants during arraignments, but some observers have noted that defendants appear to pay more attention to the videotape than they do to a judge delivering a monologue of rights. The natural attraction of a television screen may account for this phenomenon. Finally, the use of the videotape decreases the amount of time the arraigning judge must spend on the bench in the courtroom. Judges are free to augment the videotaped advisement to the extent they deem appropriate when they take the bench following the videotape presentation.

Media Courtroom

In June 1985 the media courtroom in the Anchorage trial courts was completed and ready for use. The media courtroom has features designed to allow press access to hearings in appropriate cases without disrupting court proceedings.

The courtroom features three permanently mounted television cameras: one pointed at the judge, one at the witness



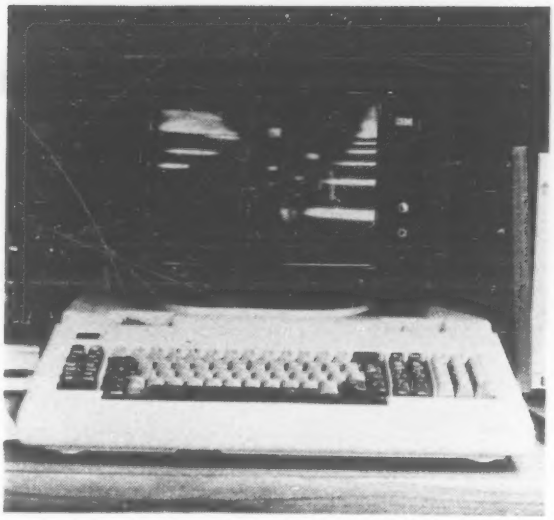
Control Booth in the Anchorage Media Courtroom

chair, and the third at the podium used by attorneys. A soundproof, glassed-in control room located at the back of the courtroom contains monitor screens and three video switchers with individual color monitors. These switchers allow the television stations to hook up video taping equipment, monitor what is being taped and choose any of the three camera positions. The use of the media courtroom will facilitate press access to non-confidential court proceedings, thus accommodating the public's right to be informed as well as allowing court proceedings to take place efficiently.

Media access to court proceedings is governed by the terms and procedures contained within a formal media plan adopted by the supreme court.

Computer-Assisted Legal Research in Rural Areas

Many smaller courts face a dilemma about the provision of legal research resources. Courts in Alaska have traditionally allowed local bar members and litigants to use legal research resource materials available at the court. However, the acquisition of traditional book sets is expensive, court personnel in rural areas are neither trained nor available to provide time-consuming updating and supplementing services, and often there is insufficient space in small, crowded court buildings for an adequate law library. The court is exploring the use of



Westlaw Computer Terminal

computer-assisted legal research systems in rural areas in lieu of the provision of a complete, traditional law library.

An experiment involving such a system is presently being conducted in the superior court in Barrow. Barrow is a community of approximately 5,200 persons on the shores of the Arctic Ocean in northern Alaska. A superior court judge, a magistrate and approximately 9 lawyers reside and work in Barrow. After space, book costs and personnel concerns of a traditional library were evaluated, two Lexis research terminals were installed in the Barrow court in FY 85. Only important primary source material (such as the Pacific Reporter) and materials unavailable on Lexis were provided in book form. The court provided free training sessions and funded a number of hours per month of Lexis use for local bar members.

The system is currently under evaluation. Members of the local bar have expressed some resistance to the use of the computer system, as opposed to traditional research methods. However, from the court's perspective, a computer-assisted legal research system may be the only viable solution to the problem of providing legal research tools to some rural courts.

Facsimile Machines

Because of the vast distances which separate many rural courts from each other and from urban centers, judges and court personnel often experience coordination and communication problems. Although an increasing number of court matters are handled over the telephone, the transmittal of documents such as court orders has presented a problem in the past.

A number of rural courts now utilize facsimile equipment, which allows copies of documents to be transmitted through use of phone connections. The second judicial district courts of Barrow, Kotzebue and Nome use facsimile equipment to transmit such documents as orders, calendars and pleadings between locations. The increased use of telephonic hearings, accompanied by the ability of the courts to transmit relevant documents results in cost savings from decreased travel expenditures.

Telephonic Hearings

In FY 85 the supreme court promulgated rules to allow for telephonic participation in civil and criminal cases, when feasible. The supreme court recognized that telephonic participation in court hearings can result in significant cost savings in travel expenses.

New courtroom recording equipment is currently being installed in courts statewide. The new equipment produces four-channel cassette recordings, and replaces the now obsolete reel-to-reel recording equipment which has been in use in Alaska courts since 1973. The new recording equipment has a special feature, called a "phone patch", which greatly facilitates telephonic participation in court proceedings.

Gyyr Recording Equipment

The "phone patch" is an electronic means of connecting courtroom microphones and loudspeakers to a telephone line. An in-court clerk telephones the person who will be participating by phone. Then, the clerk pushes a single button and adjusts two controls, one to establish correct volume and the other to compensate for differences in individual telephone connections. The remote person is heard through the normal courtroom loudspeakers. Once adjusted, the phone patch allows courtroom occupants to converse freely with the remote person so long as the courtroom occupants are within normal speaking distance of a regular courtroom microphone. All conversations in court and by telephone are recorded on the courtroom recorder's "witness channel".

Operation is "full duplex", which means that simultaneous conversation from both ends of the phone connection is possible without the telephone line being "seized" by one party or the other as occurs with the use of conventional speaker telephones. This feature allows interruptions to occur as they would during normal courtroom hearings.

The phone patch conversation is subject to the quality of the telephone connection. Should this be poor, as tends to be the normal case in many rural locations, the quality of the contact will be poor or may be unacceptable. If the connection is made through a "simplex" satellite, conversation has to be limited to one person speaking at a time as is necessary with conventional speaker telephones.

Despite these drawbacks, the phone patch has been used extensively in the courts in which it has been installed. Many kinds of proceedings may be completely or partially conducted over the telephone, saving both the court system and litigants considerable travel expense. Some examples are pre-trial conferences, motions and certain types of arraignments. Some witnesses may be examined over the phone.

Integrated Automated Library System

In FY 1985 a project which will provide an integrated automated library system was initiated for the Anchorage Law Library. When fully operational, the system will include an on-line patron catalog, acquisitions and serial control modules and circulation/ inventory control capabilities.

This new system should allow the court to provide better service to members of the bar and the public without increasing the number of library personnel.

Records, Statistics and Information Systems

In FY 84 the court system began development and implementation of a computer system to provide a useful, reliable information system for local trial court usage as well as a vehicle for statewide data collection. Selected courts have received automated data and word processing equipment. When the project is complete, caseload information in all of the superior courts (with the exception of Wrangell/Petersburg) and approximately 95% of the district courts will be automated.

The computer systems are designed to perform a variety of tasks. Courts will be able to produce automated case records, calendars, name indices, notices to attorneys and automated judgment orders. The systems will also perform word processing tasks and generate receipts and accounting records.

Caseload and management data will be derived from the basic case records. These systems will eliminate manual card files and reports, and will provide access to a wide range of caseload information which can be organized easily.

As of January 1985 the automation project in smaller court locations was substantially complete except for the Juneau and Palmer courts. Microcomputer systems have been installed in thirteen trial courts. A small calendaring management system has been installed in Fairbanks. A microcomputer based system to manage appellate court records was installed in the Appellate Court Clerk's Office in 1984.

In early 1985 the court system began re-evaluating the type of equipment needed for the larger courts, based on experience to date with the thirteen smaller courts. Caseload volume and terminal volume indicate that a different type of hardware should be used in the larger ccurts, and that different software may also be required. An analysis of user needs is underway in the Anchorage and Fairbanks trial courts. The results of these reviews will determine the most suitable type of hardware and software for the remaining court sites to be automated (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Palmer). It is anticipated that automation of these courts will not be completed until late 1986.

Computer System Terminal

Court Administration

During FY 85 the court continued efforts to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of court system operations. The supreme court adopted a fish and game bail schedule to streamline the handling of minor fish and game offenses. The court also encouraged increased participation in its rulemaking process by revitalizing committees to study and make recommendations for changes to rules governing the administration of all courts. Substantial changes were made in the court's plan for media coverage of judicial proceedings. Discussions of these and other FY 85 administrative accomplishments follow:

Fish and Game Bail Forfeiture Schedule

Effective June 1, 1985, the supreme court adopted a bail forfeiture schedule for fish and game misdemeanors which the court determined were amenable to disposition without a court appearance by the defendant. The schedule covers offenses such as sport fishing and hunting without license in possession, unauthorized use of spear or arrow, and attempting to snag and feeding game. These offenses are handled in a manner similar to traffic citations; a defendant who wants to plead guilty and waive a court appearance can simply deliver to the court a prescribed bail forfeiture amount. It is anticipated that this approach to minor fish and game offenses will save time and money for the court system, the Fish and Wildlife Division of the Department of Public Safety and for the public.

Court Rules

The Alaska Constitution provides that the supreme court shall make and promulgate rules governing the administration of all courts, and the practice and procedure in civil and criminal cases. Requests for changes to rules come from judges, the bar, court system administration and the general public. In FY 85 over 50 rules projects were considered by the supreme court which resulted in supreme court orders adding, amending, or deleting court rules.

Major rules projects completed during FY 85 included the adoption of new rules on telephonic participation in civil and criminal cases, the handling of exhibits in civil and criminal cases, and concerning the rulemaking process itself. The supreme court promulgated Administrative Rule 44, which provides for broad participation by Bar members and other interested persons in the rulemaking process. This increased public participation should encourage the evolutionary direction of court rules

toward increased fairness and efficiency.

An important project begun this fiscal year concerns a new proposed rule on venue. Venue is the legal concept that determines in which particular court location a case will be heard. Under legislative changes passed in FY 85, venue will be established by court rule beginning January 1, 1986. The rule under discussion would create a venue map that would reduce the number of legal citation references necessary to determine venue from six to no more than one or two.

During FY 85 the supreme court adopted a rule delineating a new policy relating to the appointment of deputy magistrates, formerly designated "acting magistrates." The rule requires a training judge to certify that a clerk of court has achieved an adequate skill level prior to the clerk's appointment as a deputy magistrate. The rule also requires that orders of appointment specify the judicial duties each deputy magistrate is authorized to perform.

In response to a request from the legislature that the supreme court increase fees for services performed by the court, the court amended Administrative Rule 9, increasing fees by approximately 40%, effective July 1, 1985. All funds received from payment of court fees are deposited in the state's general fund.

Rules Committees

This year several supreme court committees were rejuvenated by Chief Justice Rabinowitz through appointment of new committee members. Separate committees were appointed to study and make recommendations concerning the civil rules, criminal rules, appellate rules, civil pattern jury instructions and criminal pattern jury instructions. The rules committees will be guided in their efforts by new Administrative Rule 44, which was promulgated in May of 1985 to be effective September 15, 1985. The committees are to receive proposals for major rules changes and to make recommendations concerning those proposals to the supreme court. In addition, the committees will study the operation and effect of court rules in the area to which they are assigned. Changes to those rules found by the committees to promote simplicity in procedure, fairness in administration, the just determination of litigation and the elimination of unjustifiable expense and delay are to be forwarded to the supreme court for its consideration. Committee members are appointed by the supreme court from the judiciary, Alaska Bar Association, and other qualified persons. Nominees are considered from any source. While the committee members serve without compensation, this service is an opportunity for all those interested in the fair and efficient administration of justice to make some contribution to the development of the Alaska Rules of Procedure and Practice.

Media Plan for Coverage of Judicial Proceedings

The supreme court approved substantial changes in the plan for media coverage of judicial proceedings for a one year trial period beginning July 1, 1985.

The court's order allows media coverage upon prior consent from the judge presiding at the proceeding. Coverage may be prohibited only for specific reasons articulated on the record or in writing which relate to the judge's ability to control the conduct of proceedings, ensure decorum and prevent distraction, and ensure the fair administration of justice in the pending cause.

Although the new plan eliminates the requirement of the defendant's consent in criminal proceedings, the permission of the victim is still required before coverage will be permitted of proceedings involving sexual offenses. In family matters coverage may be allowed on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the judge and consent of all parties.

The Alaska Judicial Council will monitor the impact of these changes and furnish a report to the supreme court by June 1, 1986 so that the court can consider whether to adopt these changes permanently.

Procurement Guidelines

The administrative director has promulgated comprehensive guidelines governing procurement by the Alaska Court System, effective July 1, 1985. Although the court system is not subject to the Alaska Fiscal Procedures Act, the guidelines reflect the competitive principles embodied in Alaska state law. They are modeled on the 1981 Model Procurement Code for state and local governments which has been adopted by the Public Contract Law section of the American Bar Association.

The guidelines include such topics as ethics in court system procurement, preparation of bid specifications, prohibited purchases, public access to procurement information, competitive sealed bidding and competitive sealed proposal procedures, small purchases, sole source procurement, professional services contracts and protest procedures.

Transfer of Juvenile Intake Function

The supreme court transferred the juvenile intake function from the court system to the Department of Health and Social Services effective December 3, 1984.

The juvenile intake offices are responsible for the preliminary investigation of juvenile delinquency cases. Intake officers decide if cases referred to them should be handled formally or informally. If formal action is warranted, the intake officers file a petition with the superior court. The supreme court decided that the juvenile intake function is prosecutorial in nature and should not be contained within the court.

Civilian Process Servers

Pursuant to supreme court orders, effective July 1, 1984, the Department of Public Safety assumed the responsibility for the appointment of civilian process servers. Process servers will have statewide jurisdiction, will be licensed and governed by the department, and will serve all process in all civil cases. In areas where there is no private process server available, state troopers will serve civil process. Process server applicants will be tested and a background check will be conducted by the Anchorage state trooper office. Complaints about process servers will be reviewed by the Department of Public Safety. The courts will be notified of any decisions . affecting the license of a process server.

Judicial Liability

In the wake of a ruling by the U. S. Supreme Court that judges can be assessed attorney fees in actions brought under 42 USC Sec. 1983, judges nationwide have expressed great concern about representation and payment of fees in these types of cases. In response to this concern, on April 24, 1985, the administrative director entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Law and the Risk Management Division of the Department of Administration, in which the State of Alaska agreed to provide liability coverage to judges and other court system employees who are sued in the course of their employment.

Law Libraries

Law libraries statewide support the legal research needs of court staff and practicing attorneys. A library priority in FY 85 was to evaluate the branch library collections and provide training for library staff outside Anchorage. To that end, Anchorage supervisory librarians visited eight of the fifteen branch law libraries to oversee their operations and consider specific court requests for new materials. Staff from Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan and Anchorage participated in a two-day training workshop on the acquisition of legal materials. To assist trial court staff in carrying out library duties in outlying courts where there is no library staff, the Anchorage staff developed an operational manual and distributed it systemwide. Also, a planning document listing essential legal materials for superior court library sites was created in an effort to standardize the collections statewide and to guide acquisitions.

The Anchorage Law Library staff met their goal of collecting growth and library use statistics in FY 85. In the technical services department, staff continued to use WLN for cataloging support, adding 535 holdings to the data base for a net growth of 2,715 volumes. Reference activity remained high, with staff handling 11,660 in-person and telephone inquiries during the year. The Anchorage Law Library continued to function as the

major legal reference collection in the state by providing interlibrary loan services to other libraries. In this fiscal year, 822 items were loaned from the Anchorage collection, with the majority of incoming requests originating in the court's branch libraries. Staff borrowed 190 items for Alaska patrons, mostly from law libraries within the Pacific Northwest region. The limited circulation policy remained in effect and total circulation for the year was 900 items.

Affirmative Action

The Personnel Office develops and monitors the Alaska Court System's affirmative action plan.

The affirmative action goal is to attract, hire, and retain minority employees. The minimum numerical hiring goals in FY 85 were 59 Alaska Natives, 18 Blacks, 3 Asian/Pacific Islanders, and 3 employees classified as Other Minorities. The hiring goals were exceeded for all racial categories except Alaska Natives.

In an effort to increase the number of Alaska Native employees, members of the personnel staff have begun a more active outreach program, visiting Native corporations and village councils.

At the end of FY 85, 494 non-judicial personnel were employed by the Alaska Court System. The racial composition of that workforce was 406 Caucasians (82.2%), 37 Alaska Natives (7.5%), 31 Blacks (6.3%), 6 Asian/Pacific

Quarter Ending June, 1985

ALASKA COURT SYSTEM

I. SUMMARY: CLASSIFIED AND NON-JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES

				MALE					FEMALE				
Ranges	Total Employees	Total Female	Total Minority	Caucasian	Alaska Native	Black	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Other	Caucasian	Alaska Native	Black	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Other
6 & 8	80	69	25	9	0	2	0	0	46	9	9	0	5
10	120	110	22	7	2	0	0	1	91	9	6	1	3
12	142	140	26	2	0	0	0	0	114	12	8	3	3
13 & 14	42	40	10	1	0	0	0	0	31	3	4	1	1
15 - 20	36	27	2	9	0	1	0	0	25	1	0	0	1
21 & Above	34	13	2	20	0	0	1	0	12	0	1	0	0
Law Clerk	40	24	1	15	1	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0
Total Employees	494	423	88	63	3	3	1	1	343	34	28	5	13

TOTAL VACANCIES: 9
GRAND TOTAL: 503

II. Percentage of Court System Population by Race

Caucasian	82.2
Alaska Native	7.5
Black	6.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2
Other	2.8

III. All Justices and Judges

All Filled Positions:	52
Alaska Natives:	1
Caucasian:	50
Others:	1
(Females: 8)	

IV. Magistrate Positions

All Filled Positions:	46
Alaska Natives:	14
Caucasian:	30
Others:	2
(Females: 19)	

Islanders (1.2%), and 14 employees who were classified as Other Minorities (2.8%). Eighty-eight minorities represented 17.8% of the non-judicial workforce.

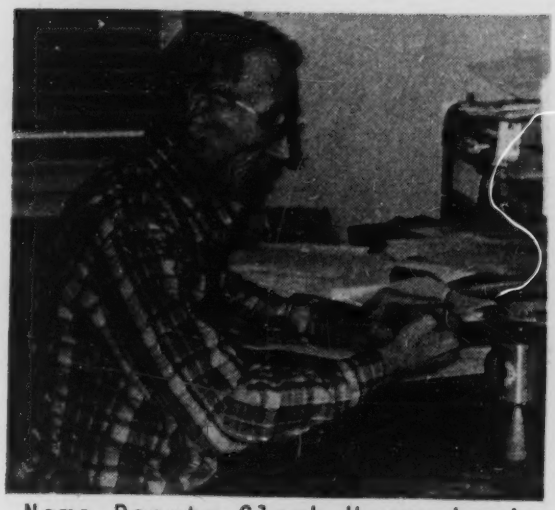
During FY 85, 189 positions were filled. New hires filled 143 of the positions and 46 positions were filled by promotion. Of the newly-hired employees, there were 113 Caucasians, 10 Alaska Natives, 13 Blacks, 1 Asian/Pacific Islander, and 6 employees classified as Other Minorities. There were 38 Caucasians, 4 Alaska Natives, 1 Black, and 3 employees classified as Other Minorities who were promoted.

Women comprised 86% of the non-judicial workforce. They filled 95% of first-line supervisory positions, 75% of the professional positions, 60% of the law clerk positions, and 38% of the managerial positions.

Employee Achievement Award Program

The Employee Achievement Award Program was initiated in April 1981 to reward outstanding job performance, innovative improvements and timesaving techniques. Only classified permanent or probationary employees are eligible for nomination. Winners of the award receive a wall plaque and from one to three days off with pay.

During FY 85 this special achievement award was presented to Harry Lewis, deputy clerk of the Nome court, and to Roxanne Pack, supervisor of the Vital Statistics section in Anchorage. Harry, who has been with the court since 1976, was nominated for the assistance he gave to the Barrow and Kotzebue courts. Roxanne was credited with organizing her office so efficiently and effectively that Vital Statistics was able to withdraw a request for additional personnel.



Nome Deputy Clerk Harry Lewis

Anchorage Vital Statistics Supervisor Roxanne Pack Receives Award From Judge Douglas Serdahely

Legislation Affecting the Courts

The 1985 legislature made the following statutory changes of special interest to courts.

Judicial Vacancy. A statutory change clarified that the office of a supreme court justice, superior court judge or district court judge becomes vacant 90 days after the election at which the justice or judge is rejected by the voters or for which the justice or judge fails to file a declaration of candidacy. This amendment corrected an inconsistency between existing statutes and the Alaska Constitution.

Venue. The supreme court was granted authority to set venue for all court actions by court rule, effective January 1, 1986.

District Court Jurisdiction. The 1985 legislature increased the civil jurisdiction of the district court from the previous maximum of $10,000 ($15,000 in motor vehicle tort cases) to $25,000 for all types of district court civil actions. Actions within this monetary limit must now be filed in district court, except as provided by supreme court rule. District court was given concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court over domestic violence actions. The district court also was given jurisdiction over claims against contractors and actions required to enforce liens if the actions fall within the monetary limit of the district court. (Effective July 1, 1985.)

Protective Actions. Legislation concerning the protection of children, family members and dependent adults will impact the courts. As of July 1, 1985, the Department of Health and Social Services must notify the court of certain actions relating to the emergency custody of children. A court may enjoin or limit a person from contact with a child if the state establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the person has sexually abused a child, has physically abused a child, or engaged in conduct that constitutes a clear and present danger to the child's welfare.

Child Support Enforcement. Legislation was enacted in response to new federal legislation designed to strengthen child support enforcement efforts.

Sexual Assault. In specified sexual assault prosecutions, hearsay evidence by a child victim may be admitted into evidence before a grand jury if the circumstances of the statement indicate its reliability, if the child is under 10 years of age when the evidence is sought to be admitted, if additional evidence is introduced to corroborate the statement, and if the child either testifies at the grand jury proceedings or will be available to testify at trial. (Effective August 27, 1985).

In a prosecution for sexual assault, a spousal relationship is not a defense. Additionally, the definition of domestic violence is expanded to provide for a

parent, grandparent, child or grandchild of the defendant. Upon a petition for injunctive relief the court is authorized to appoint a guardian ad litem or attorney to represent a minor.

Executions of Judgment. By statute, 50% of a permanent fund dividend is generally exempt from levy, but 100% may be seized to satisfy child support obligations or a debt owned to a state agency. New legislation now also allows the seizure of 100% of a dividend to satisfy a court order for restitution.

Correctional Restitution Centers. New legislation requires the commissioner of corrections to establish correctional restitution centers to provide nonviolent offenders with rehabilitation through community service. The court is authorized to recommend that a defendant serve all or part of a term of imprisonment in a correctional restitution center.

Parole. Effective January 1, 1986, the court may, as part of a sentence of imprisonment, further restrict the eligibility of a prisoner for discretionary parole for a term greater than is required by state parole statutes.

Court-Appointed Attorneys. The 1984 legislature established an office of public advocacy to provide representation for persons who cannot be represented by the public defender agency because of a conflict of interest. By the end of FY 85 this office had assumed statutory responsibility for attorney and other court appointments in the great majority of cases. When the office of public advocacy cannot handle its obligations with existing office staff, court appointments will be made from a list of eligible attorneys prepared by the office of public advocacy in conjunction with the Alaska Bar Association.

FY 85 Capital Improvements

The Alaska Court System maintains court facilities in 57 locations across the state. These facilities range from multi-million dollar court complexes in metropolitan areas to one room offices in rural locations. Each year the court system upgrades its facilities by building or leasing new or improved space and by remodeling existing structures. During FY 85 facility improvements were completed in several court locations. Planning was also begun on projects to be completed in FY 86. Descriptions of these projects follow.

First Judicial District

Angoon

In August 1985 the court system moved into a new court and city hall building which was completed in June by the city of Angoon. The space occupied by the court consists of 2 courtrooms large enough for jury trials, a small jury deliberation room, and a magistrate's office with an adjacent storage room.

Kake

During FY 85 the court system worked with the city of Kake to develop plans for a courtroom addition to the Kake City Hall Building. This proposed facility would include a courtroom large enough to hold 12-person jury trials, a magistrate's office, a jury deliberation room, a clerk's office with a public counter, and three small storage rooms.

Petersburg

In April 1985 the court system entered into a long term lease for approximately 5,000 square feet of court and office space in Petersburg. The new court facility is currently under construction and will provide adequate space for superior court trials, as well as a multi-purpose hearing room, a jury deliberation room, a judge's chambers, a magistrate's office, a clerk's general office, three storage rooms, two witness/attorney conference rooms, a law library, and a multi-purpose office.

Sitka

A longstanding over heating problem has been rectified at the Sitka Court and Office Building. This project was done with the cooperation of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. The repair negated the need to install an expensive additional chiller to provide for a more comfortable judicial environment.

Wrangell

In October 1984 the court system completed planning and design efforts with the City of Wrangell to provide approximately 5,500 square feet of court and office space in a proposed state funded public safety building. The design provides for a courtroom capable of seating fourteen jurors, a jury deliberation room, a judge's chambers, a magistrate's office, a secretary/receptionist area, a clerk's general office with public counter, a private clerk of court office, two witness/attorney conference rooms, two storage rooms, a law library, and a multi-purpose room. Occupancy is expected in the fall of 1986.

Yakutat

The court system had hoped to occupy a new 3,350 square foot superior court facility in Yakutat in the fall of 1985. An award for a lease was made in June 1984. The successful bidder defaulted in May 1985. The court system plans on re-bidding this project in the fall of 1985.

Second Judicial District

Barrow

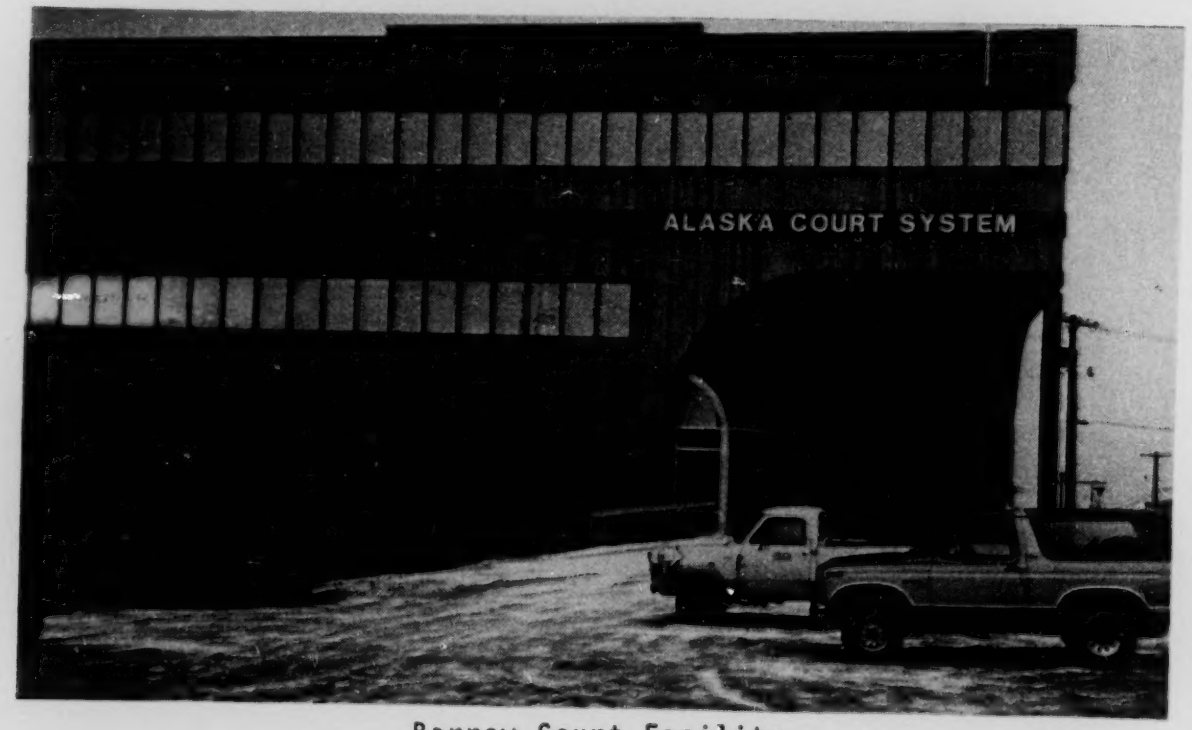
On July 3, 1985 the newly constructed Barrow Courthouse was completed. This major facility provides approximately 10,000 square feet of court and office space and includes two full superior courtrooms (one with a unique translation booth) which can hold fourteen-person jury trials; one grand jury hearing room; two jury deliberation rooms; one judge's chambers; one visiting judge's chambers; a magistrate's office; a secretary/reception office; a private office for the clerk of court; a clerk's general office; three witness/attorney conference rooms; a law library; two storage rooms for secure evidence; files and recording tapes; and a prisoner holding/secured interview room. The basic term of this lease is fifteen years. Occupancy began on July 26, 1985.

Kiana

In July 1985 the court system relocated from a modular facility shared with local law enforcement personnel to a private office of 270 square feet in the newly constructed Kiana Public Safety Building.

Gambell

On April 1, 1985 the court system relocated from a modular facility shared with local law enforcement personnel to a private office of approximately 180 square feet in the newly constructed Gambell Municipal Office Building. The magistrate will also be able to use a nearby large assembly room for court proceedings on an as-needed basis.



Barrow Court Facility

Third Judicial District

Anchorage

During FY 85 several minor remodeling projects were completed in the Anchorage courthouse. A small elevator was constructed in the clerk's office to transport court files between the civil division on the mezzanine and the records division on the main floor. A raised platform was constructed for the judicial bench in the children's master hearing room. A small private office to be used by the juvenile intake officer was provided in the area next to the juvenile holding room. Minor remodeling in the law library provided space for new computer equipment.

Early in June 1985 the administrative offices of the court system were relocated from three separate building locations and consolidated in approximately 12,200 square feet of office space on a single floor in a building adjacent to the Anchorage courthouse. This relocation released space for the use of the trial courts, increased office efficiency, and improved public access to the administrative offices.

Cordova

On July 31, 1985 the newly constructed Cordova courthouse was completed. This facility provides approximately 4,500 square feet of court and office space. It provides a superior courtroom which can hold 14-person jury trials, a multi-purpose hearing room/library, a jury deliberation room, a judge's chambers, a magistrate's office, a clerk's general office, two witness/attorney conference rooms, and three storage rooms for records, supplies and evidence. The lease, awarded in June 1984, is for a basic term of fifteen years. Occupancy occurred early in August 1985.

Fourth Judicial District

Aniak

The court system has been working with the City of Aniak in planning for court and office space in a proposed city building complex. The proposed facility would provide a small courtroom, a jury deliberation room, and a magistrate's office.

Fairbanks

Remodeling projects completed in the Fairbanks courthouse included the recarpeting of the transcript department and custody investigator offices. A jury assembly area on the main floor was completed. Also, the jury clerk's office was enlarged and new public seating was installed. Approximately 100 headbolt heaters, including air curtains, were installed on the top floor of the Fairbanks parking structure. Schematic drawings for a proposed remodeling of the traffic section have been finalized; this project is scheduled for completion before June 1986.

FOREWORD

This statistical supplement is designed primarily for research applications. It is comprised of six sections dealing with appellate and trial court statistics. Appellate court statistics are subdivided into sections on the supreme court and court of appeals. Trial court statistics are comprised of sections on superior courts, higher volume district courts and lower volume district courts.

The administrative office is continuing a multi-year program (begun in 1982) to revise its data collection and data processing capabilities and procedures. As the transition from the older system to newer procedures and equipment progresses, the level of specificity that was contained in previous annual reports will be gradually reintroduced. Unfortunately, some lack of detailed data during this transition period is inevitable.

For FY 85 publication of data regarding the stage of disposition of cases closed out during the year was reinstated. In the trial court tables which follow, charts have been added which provide the reported number and types of trials and other types of dispositions for specific case types.

Any reader with questions, comments or suggestions about this statistical supplement is encouraged to contact:

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SUPREME COURT

SUPREME COURT
SUMMARY OF FILINGS
FY 83 - FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE FY 84 to FY 85
Civil Appeals	271	300	311	+4
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal	92	79	93	+18
Petitions for Hearing - Sentence	14	13	9	-31
Petitions for Review	113	129	92	-29
Original Applications	19	20	23	+15
TOTAL	509	541	528	-2

SUPREME COURT
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS
FY 83 - FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE FY 84 to FY 85
Civil Appeals	307	325	273	-16
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal	83	89	79	-11
Petitions for Hearing - Sentence	12	12	14	+17
Petitions for Review	118	119	104	-13
Original Applications	18	22	14	-36
TOTAL	538	567	484	-15

SUPREME COURT
DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION

FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	DISPOSITION BY		TOTAL
	MERIT	NOT ON MERIT	
Civil Appeals	179	94	273
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal	6	73	79
Petitions for Hearing - Sentence	4	10	14
Petitions for Review	14	90	104
Original Applications	10	4	14
TOTAL	213	271	484
% OF TOTAL	44%	56%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 - JUNE 30

SUPREME COURT
CASES PENDING AS OF JUNE 30, 1985

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE FY 84 to FY 85
Civil Appeals	316	291	331	+14
Petitions for Hearing - Criminal	33	21	35	+67
Petitions for Hearing - Sentence	4	5	1	-80
Petitions for Review	26	38	23	-39
Original Applications	7	5	15	+300
TOTAL	386	360	404	+12

SUPREME COURT
REASON FOR CASES PENDING

JUNE 30, 1985

TYPE OF CASE	CASE AWAITING							STAYED	TOTAL
	DRAFT OPINION CIRCULATING	AWAITING DRAFT OPINION	RECORDS	BRIEFS	ARGU-MENT	DECISION	Rehear-ing		
Appeals:									
Civil	63	53	86	78	32	-	5	14	331
Criminal	5	3	-	14	2	8	-	3	35
Children's									
Sentence	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Petitions for Review	6	5	-	4	-	5	-	2	22
Original Applications	2	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	15
TOTAL	76	66	88	103	34	13	5	19	404
% OF TOTAL	19	16	22	26	8	3	1	5	100

COURT OF APPEALS

COURT OF APPEALS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS
FY 83 - FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE
Appeals:				
Merit	339	312	287	-8
Sentence	166	150	158	+5
Petitions for Review	73	64	60	-6
Original Applications	3	5	1	-80
TOTAL	581	531	506	-5

COURT OF APPEALS
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS
FY 83 - FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE
Appeals:				
Merit	347	276	283	+3
Sentence	171	168	122	-27
Petitions for Review	72	77	55	-29
Original Applications	4	5	1	-80
TOTAL	594	526	461	-12

COURT OF APPEALS
DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION

FY 85

TYPE OF CASE	DISPOSITION BY		TOTAL
	MERITS	NOT ON MERITS	
Appeals:			
Merit	241	42	283
Sentence	91	31	122
Petitions for Review	8	47	55
Original Applications	1	-	1
TOTAL	341	120	461
% OF TOTAL	74%	26%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 - JUNE 30

COURT OF APPEALS
CASES PENDING AS OF JUNE 30, 1985

TYPE OF CASE	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE
Appeals:				
Merit	322	350	342	-2
Sentence	96	82	124	+15
Petitions for Review	18	11	19	+73
Original Applications	-	-	1	+100
TOTAL	436	443	486	+10

COURT OF APPEALS
REASON FOR CASES PENDING
JUNE 30, 1985

TYPE OF CASE	CASE AWAITING							STAYED AND/OR REMAND	TOTAL
	DRAFT DISPOSITION CIRCULATING	AWAITING DRAFT DISPOSITION	RECORDS	BRIEFS	SUBMISSION	DECISION	Rehear-ing		
Appeals:									
Merit	50	91	68	92	1	-	21	19	342
Sentence	12	55	13	33	5	-	5	1	124
Petitions for Review	6	5	-	5	1	-	-	2	19
Original Applications	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	68	152	81	130	7	0	26	22	486
% OF TOTAL	14%	31%	17%	27%	1%	0%	5%	5%	100%

STATEWIDE TRIAL COURT

ALASKA POPULATION

FY 85

LOCATION	POPULATION			% INCREASE	% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL
	CENSUS 1980	ESTIMATE *	INCREASE		
Anchorage	173017	227070	54053	+ 31	44.4
Barrow	4199	5168	969	+ 23	1.0
Bethel	13354	13570	216	+ 2	2.6
Cordova	2241	2625	384	+ 17	.5
Dillingham	4616	5623	1007	+ 22	1.1
Fairbanks	53983	64810	10827	+ 20	12.7
Glennallen	501	583	82	+ 16	.1
Homer	2209	8374	6165	+279	1.6
Juneau	19528	25964	6436	+ 33	5.1
Kenai	19785	22330	2545	+ 13	4.4
Ketchikan	11316	12712	1396	+ 12	2.5
Kodiak	9939	12896	2957	+ 30	2.5
Kotzebue	3478	4023	545	+ 16	.8
Nome	5229	6109	880	+ 17	1.2
Palmer	17766	29849	12083	+ 68	5.8
Petersburg	3249	3572	323	+ 10	.7
Seward	2809	3489	680	+ 24	.7
Sitka	7803	8194	391	+ 5	1.6
Tok	1702	1955	253	+ 15	.4
Unalaska	3263	3568	305	+ 9	.7
Valdez	5408	6319	911	+ 17	1.2
Wrangell	2363	2679	316	+ 13	.5
OTHER (Low Vol.)	32723	39072	6349	+ 19	7.7
TOTAL	400481	510554	110073	+ 27	100

* ALASKA POPULATION OVERVIEW - DEPT OF LABOR (OCTOBER 1984)

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	53794	64658	10864	+ 20	127
Second	15567	18588	3021	+ 19	3.6
Third	247830	329821	81991	+ 33	64.6
Fourth	83290	97487	14197	+ 17	19.1

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, POLICE AND LAWYERS

FY 85

LOCATION	POPULATION	TOTAL NUMBER POLICE	POLICE PER THOUSAND POPULATION 3÷2×1000	TOTAL NUMBERS LAWYERS	LAWYERS PER THOUSAND POPULATION 5÷2×1000
Anchorage	227070	310	1.4	1149	5.1
Barrow	5168	36	6.9	10	1.9
Bethel	13570	22	1.6	19	1.4
Cordova	2625	7	2.7	3	1.1
Dillingham	5623	7	1.2	5	.9
Fairbanks	64810	108	1.7	168	2.6
Glennallen	583	5	8.6	0	-
Homer	8374	11	1.3	10	1.2
Juneau	25964	43	1.7	178	6.9
Kenai	22330	38	1.7	34	1.5
Ketchikan	12712	43	3.4	39	3.1
Kodiak	12896	24	1.9	23	1.8
Kotzebue	4023	15	3.7	7	1.7
Nome	6109	14	2.3	8	1.3
Palmer	29849	36	1.2	33	1.1
Petersburg	3572	8	.6	2	.6
Seward	3489	11	3.2	1	.3
Sitka	8194	17	2.1	16	1.9
Tok	1955	1	.5	0	-
Unalaska	3568	10	2.8	0	-
Valdez	6319	15	2.4	7	1.1
Wrangell	2679	6	2.2	3	1.1
TOTAL	471482	787	1.7	1715	3.6

Alaska Bar Association Roster June 30, 1985
Troopers & Local Police Departments Personnel June 1985

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	53121	117	2.2	238	4.5
Second	15300	65	4.2	25	1.6
Third	322726	474	1.5	1265	3.9
Fourth	80335	131	1.6	187	2.3

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
AUTHORIZED JUDICIAL POSITIONS

FY 85

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	MAGI-STRATES	MASTERS	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL
Anchorage	12	9	5	4	30	27.2
Barrow	1		1		2	1.8
Bethel	1		1		2	1.8
Cordova			1		1	.9
Dillingham			1		1	.9
Fairbanks	4	4	2	1	11	10.0
Glennallen			1		1	.9
Homer		1			1	.9
Juneau	2	1			3	2.7
Kenai	1		1		2	1.8
Ketchikan	1	1	1		3	2.7
Kodiak	1		1		2	1.8
Kotzebue	1		1		2	1.8
Nome	1		1		2	1.8
Palmer	1		1		2	1.8
Petersburg			1		1	.9
Seward			1		1	.9
Sitka	1		1		2	1.8
Tok			1		1	.9
Unalaska			1		1	.9
Valdez	1				1	.9
Wrangell	1		1		2	1.8
OTHER (Low Vol.)			36		36	32.7
TOTAL	29	16	60	5	110	100

Alaska Court System Personnel Roster June 30, 1985

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	5	2	12	0	19	17.3
Second	3	0	12	0	15	13.6
Third	16	10	19	4	49	44.5
Fourth	5	4	17	1	27	24.5

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL POSITIONS

FY 85

LOCATION	POSITIONS BY RANGE					% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL
	BELOW 10	10 THROUGH 12	13 THOURGH 16	OVER 16	TOTAL	
Anchorage	36	105	33	7	181	46.6
Barrow	1	4	1		6	1.5
Bethel	1	4	1		6	1.5
Cordova		1			1	.3
Dillingham	1	1			2	.5
Fairbanks	12	50	11	4	77	19.8
Glennallen	1	1			2	.5
Homer	1	1	1		3	.8
Juneau	2	12	5	1	20	5.2
Kenai	2	10	1	1	14	3.6
Ketchikan	0	10	3	1	14	3.6
Kodiak	3	4	2		9	2.3
Kotzebue	1	3	1		5	1.3
Nome	1	4	1		6	1.5
Palmer	4	7	2		13	3.4
Petersburg	1	1			2	.5
Seward	1	1			2	.5
Sitka	1	4	2		7	1.8
Tok		1			1	.3
Unalaska		1			1	.3
Valdez	1	2			3	.8
Wrangell	1	2			3	.8
OTHER (Low Vol.)	2	8			10	2.6
TOTAL	73	237	64	14	388	100

Alaska Court System Personnel Roster June 30, 1985

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	6	31	10	2	49	12.6
Second	3	11	3	0	17	4.4
Third	51	135	39	8	233	60.1
Fourth	13	60	12	4	89	22.9

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
OPERATING COSTS
(THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

FY 85

LOCATION	PERSONNEL	OTHER	TOTAL	% OF STATEWIDE TOTAL	DOLLAR COST PER CASE FILED	
					ALL FILINGS	LESS TRAFFIC FILINGS
Anchorage	9,730.8	1,741.2	11,472.0	37.9	141	334
Barrow	484.4	572.3	1,056.7	3.5	1,230	1,333
Bethel	392.8	370.1	762.9	2.5	371	472
Cordova	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dillingham	110.0	146.2	256.2	0.9	314	425
Fairbanks	4,596.6	902.5	5,499.1	18.2	304	603
Glennallen	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homer	250.4	102.8	353.2	1.2	127	328
Juneau	1,185.3	778.6	1,963.9	6.5	221	357
Kenai	905.2	159.9	1,065.1	3.5	125	284
Ketchikan	905.8	261.4	1,167.2	3.9	213	454
Kodiak	543.3	116.4	659.7	2.2	158	404
Kotzebue	453.4	102.9	556.3	1.8	405	459
Nome	518.4	246.5	764.9	2.5	669	802
Palmer	617.2	261.0	878.2	2.9	69	187
Petersburg	76.5	52.0	128.5	0.4	215	361
Seward	129.9	19.7	149.6	0.5	48	212
Sitka	477.4	88.8	566.2	1.9	210	507
Tok	95.2	73.7	168.9	0.6	162	573
Unalaska	108.9	68.6	177.5	0.6	414	680
Valdez	292.1	32.2	324.3	1.1	370	663
Wrangell	282.6	47.8	330.4	1.1	404	569
OTHER (Low Vol.)	1,459.0	510.0	1,969.0	6.5	391	612
TOTAL	23,615.2	6,654.6	30,269.8	100.0	184	400

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	3,223.8	1,319.3	4,543.1	15.0	227	405
Second	1,662.8	983.7	2,646.5	8.7	720	814
Third	13,078.1	2,814.2	15,892.3	52.5	136	325
Fourth	5,650.6	1,537.4	7,188.0	23.7	305	585

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, COSTS AND JUDGES
FY 85

LOCATION	PERCENTAGE OF STATEWIDE				
	POPULATION	OPERATING COSTS	JUDGES	CASE FILINGS	CASE DISPOSITION
Anchorage	44.4	37.9	27.2	49.5	47.8
Barrow	1.0	3.5	1.8	.5	.5
Bethel	2.6	2.5	1.8	1.2	1.3
Cordova	.5	N/A	.9	.3	.3
Dillingham	1.1	.9	.9	.5	.5
Fairbanks	12.7	18.2	10.0	11.0	11.8
Glennallen	.1	N/A	.9	.5	.6
Homer	1.6	1.2	.9	1.7	1.7
Juneau	5.1	6.5	2.7	5.4	5.2
Kenai	4.4	3.5	1.8	5.2	5.7
Ketchikan	2.5	3.9	2.7	3.3	3.4
Kodiak	2.5	2.2	1.8	2.5	2.7
Kotzebue	.8	1.8	1.8	.8	.9
Nome	1.2	2.5	1.8	.7	.6
Palmer	5.8	2.9	1.8	7.8	7.7
Petersburg	.7	.4	.9	.4	.4
Seward	.7	.5	.9	1.9	2.1
Sitka	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.9
Tok	.4	.6	.9	.6	.7
Unalaska	.7	.6	.9	.3	.3
Valdez	1.2	1.1	.9	.5	.6
Wrangell	.5	1.1	1.8	.5	.5
OTHER (Low Vol.)	7.7	6.5	32.7	3.1	2.8
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	12.7	15.0	17.3	12.1	12.1
Second	3.6	8.7	13.6	2.2	2.3
Third	64.6	52.5	44.5	71.3	70.6
Fourth	19.1	23.7	24.5	14.3	15.1

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
FILINGS
FY 85

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL	FILINGS PER JUDGE
Anchorage	11602	69992	81594	49.5	2720
Barrow	285	574	859	.5	430
Bethel	469	1585	2054	1.2	1027
Cordova		501	501	.3	501
Dillingham		817	817	.5	817
Fairbanks	3448	14660	18108	11.0	1646
Glennallen		882	882	.5	882
Homer		2779	2779	1.7	2779
Juneau	1211	7714	8925	5.4	2975
Kenai	928	7570	8498	5.2	4249
Ketchikan	813	4669	5482	3.3	1827
Kodiak	455	3733	4188	2.5	2094
Kotzebue	263	1109	1372	.8	686
Nome	330	814	1144	.7	572
Palmer	1148	11600	12748	7.8	6374
Petersburg		598	598	.4	598
Seward		3121	3121	1.9	3121
Sitka	322	2371	2693	1.6	1347
Tok		1044	1044	.6	1044
Unalaska		429	429	.3	429
Valdez	133	743	876	.5	876
Wrangell	219	599	818	.5	409
OTHER (Low Vol.)		5042	5042	3.1	140
TOTAL	21626	142946	164570	100	1496

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2565	17427	19992	12.1	1052
Second	878	2797	3675	2.2	245
Third	14266	103096	117362	71.3	2395
Fourth	3917	19626	23543	14.3	872

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

ALASKA COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 85

LOCATION	SUPERIOR COURT	DISTRICT COURT	TOTAL	% OF STATE-WIDE TOTAL	DISPOSITIONS PER JUDGE
Anchorage	9491	61580	71071	47.8	2369
Barrow	213	496	709	.5	355
Bethel	465	1508	1973	1.3	987
Cordova		475	475	.3	475
Dillingham		758	758	.5	758
Fairbanks	3632	13850	17482	11.8	1589
Glennallen		847	847	.6	847
Homer		2474	2474	1.7	2474
Juneau	977	6719	7696	5.2	2565
Kenai	873	7525	8398	5.7	4199
Ketchikan	616	4471	5087	3.4	1696
Kodiak	290	3764	4054	2.7	2027
Kotzebue	300	1140	1440	.9	720
Nome	263	696	959	.6	480
Palmer	825	10684	11509	7.7	5755
Petersburg		619	619	.4	619
Seward		3108	3108	2.1	3108
Sitka	334	2453	2787	1.9	1394
Tok		1004	1004	.7	1004
Unalaska		390	390	.3	390
Valdez	97	799	896	.6	896
Wrangell	185	509	694	.5	347
OTHER (Low Vol.)		4120	4102	2.8	114
TOTAL	18561	129971	148532	100	1350

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2112	15842	17954	12.1	945
Second	776	2567	3343	2.3	223
Third	11576	93217	104793	70.6	2139
Fourth	4097	18345	22442	15.1	831

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURT

SUPERIOR COURT CASELOAD FY 1985

FY 85 statistics reflect a 6% increase from FY 84 in superior court caseloads. Superior courts reporting significant (10% or higher) increases in FY 85 filings included Barrow, Nome, Palmer and Wrangell/Petersburg. Courts reporting significant decreases in caseload included Kotzebue and Sitka.

Overall, superior courts reported a 16% increase in case dispositions when compared with FY 84. Five courts (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai, Palmer and Wrangell/Petersburg) reported significant increases in dispositions. Four courts reported significant decreases (Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, and Nome) in superior court dispositions during FY 85.

FELONY CASES

Felony case filings decreased by 3% statewide during FY 85 when compared with FY 84. This is the first year in the last five that felony filings have decreased. The decreases were not uniform statewide. Five courts (Anchorage, Nome, Ketchikan, Kodiak, and Wrangell/Petersburg) reported significant (+10% or higher) increases in felony filings while five courts (Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau and Kenai) reported significant decreases. As has been the case for the last four years, over half (57%) of all felony cases filed carried a primary charge involving either violence or drugs. In prior years, property related offenses have represented over half of all felony filings.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES

Domestic relations case filings increased by 3% over FY 84. Juneau, Kenai, Nome and Palmer reported significant increases while Kotzebue, Sitka and Wrangell/Petersburg reported significant decreases. The relatively small increase in domestic relations case filings in FY 85 was the product of 7% increases in both domestic violence cases and marriage dissolution cases. Other types of domestic relations matters (divorce, reciprocal support and "other" matters) remained relatively constant from FY 84 levels. Juneau, Kenai and Palmer reported significant increases in dissolution filings in FY 85. Kenai and Palmer reported significant increases in domestic violence case filings. No courts reported significant decreases in any domestic relations case categories. Statewide dispositions of domestic relations cases increased 6% from FY 84.

PROBATE CASES

Probate case filings statewide increased by 5% over FY 84 levels. Statewide dispositions of probate cases increased 15% over FY 84 levels. Due to the relatively small number of probate cases filed in many courts, small changes in filings or dispositions can result in large percentage changes.

In larger courts (those with over 200 annual probate filings), Anchorage reported

an 8% increase in filings and a 5% increase in dispositions while Fairbanks reported a 12% decrease in filings but a 21% increase in probate dispositions.

OTHER CIVIL MATTERS

Other civil case filings (civil damages, administrative review, contracts and notes, housing and real estate matters, etc.) increased by 26% statewide in FY 85. Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kenai, Kodiak and Palmer reported increases in excess of 20% over FY 84 levels. Only Kotzebue and Nome reported significant decreases in other civil case filings. The 26% increase in other civil case filings was the principal cause for the overall 5% increase in superior court caseload in FY 85.

Other civil case dispositions increased by 60% over FY 84 levels. This increase is due to an increase in judicial resources (3 new superior court judges and heavy use of temporary pro tem judges). This increase in dispositions, however, still did not keep pace with filings. The number of major civil matters disposed of in FY 85 represented only 90% of the number of these types of cases filed in FY 85. This is an improvement from the 71% figure for FY 84, but indicates that there is still a backlog of these cases building that will have to be dealt with in future years.

CHILDREN'S MATTERS

Filings of children's matters in superior courts decreased by approximately 20% in FY 85. Some of this decrease resulted from changes in policies regarding the filing of children's petitions when children's intake officer functions were transferred from the court system to other agencies earlier this year. This would account for the decreases reported in specific sites. However, it is likely that there are ongoing problems in other court sites regarding proper and/or complete reporting of children's matters activity.

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF FILINGS BY COURT
FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	10394	9960	10642	11602	+ 12	+ 9
Barrow	185	189	250	285	+ 54	+ 14
Bethel	355	444	511	469	+ 32	- 8
Fairbanks	2782	3138	3608	3448	+ 24	- 4
Juneau	925	1022	1177	1211	+ 31	+ 3
Kenai	692	819	951	928	+ 34	- 2
Ketchikan	746	740	810	813	+ 9	-
Kodiak	337	452	429	455	+ 35	+ 6
Kotzebue	184	242	343	263	+ 43	- 22
Nome	279	345	288	330	+ 18	+ 15
Palmer	*	501	867	1148	-	+ 32
Sitka	289	350	388	322	+ 11	- 17
Valdez	*	*	*	133	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	162	196	219	-	+ 12
TOTAL	17168	18364	20460	21626	+ 26	+ 6

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1960	2274	2571	2565	+ 31	-
Second	648	776	881	878	+ 35	-
Third	11423	11732	12889	14266	+ 25	+ 11
Fourth	3137	3582	4119	3917	+ 25	- 5

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CRIMINAL		CIVIL				
	FELONY	%	PROBATE	DOMESTIC RELATIONS	OTHER	CHILDRENS MATTERS	TOTAL
Anchorage	635	5	1593	5013	3919	442	11602
Barrow	51	18	30	92	36	76	285
Bethel	90	19	84	147	58	90	469
Fairbanks	309	9	470	1565	792	312	3448
Juneau	122	8	142	629	290	28	1211
Kenai	75	8	96	484	248	25	928
Ketchikan	76	8	142	340	139	116	813
Kodiak	81	18	37	189	118	30	455
Kotzebue	52	20	51	64	32	64	263
Nome	58	18	67	98	17	90	330
Palmer	136	12	98	578	229	107	1148
Sitka	23	7	50	107	71	71	322
Valdez	35	26	15	53	23	7	133
Wrangell/ Petersburg	39	18	36	49	24	71	219
TOTAL	1782	8	2911	9408	5996	1529	21626

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	260	9	370	1125	524	286	2565
Second	161	18	148	254	85	230	878
Third	962	6	1839	6317	4537	611	14266
Fourth	399	10	554	1712	850	402	3917

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
SUMMARY OF DISPOSITIONS BY COURT

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	8888	8086	8105	9491	+ 7	+ 17
Barrow	130	104	220	213	+ 64	- 3
Bethel	335	436	440	465	+ 39	+ 6
Fairbanks	2284	2639	2839	3632	+ 59	+ 28
Juneau	755	721	898	977	+ 29	+ 9
Kenai	661	623	722	873	+ 32	+ 21
Ketchikan	625	500	694	616	- 1	- 11
Kodiak	307	317	331	290	- 6	- 12
Kotzebue	187	208	340	300	+ 60	- 12
Nome	295	288	297	263	- 11	- 11
Palmer	*	291	605	825	-	+ 36
Sitka	213	290	317	334	+ 57	+ 5
Valdez	*	*	*	97	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	67	140	185	-	+ 32
TOTAL	14680	14570	15948	18561	+ 26	+ 16

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1593	1578	2049	2112	+ 33	+ 3
Second	612	600	857	776	+ 27	- 9
Third	9856	9317	9763	11576	+ 17	+ 19
Fourth	2619	3075	3279	4097	+ 56	+ 25

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	480	583	563	635	+ 32	+ 13
Barrow	34	54	85	51	+ 50	- 40
Bethel	91	99	142	90	- 1	- 37
Fairbanks	324	391	403	309	- 5	- 23
Juneau	79	110	156	122	+ 54	- 22
Kenai	95	100	102	75	- 21	- 26
Ketchikan	84	72	53	76	- 10	+ 43
Kodiak	45	58	53	81	+ 80	+ 53
Kotzebue	20	43	52	52	+ 160	-
Nome	60	48	51	58	- 3	+ 14
Palmer	*	12	143	136	-	- 5
Sitka	5	11	24	23	+ 360	- 4
Valdez	*	*	*	35	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	26	19	39	-	+ 105
TOTAL	1317	1607	1846	1782	+ 35	- 3

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	168	219	252	260	+ 55	+ 3
Second	114	145	188	161	+ 41	- 14
Third	620	753	861	962	+ 55	+ 12
Fourth	415	490	545	399	- 4	- 27

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CASE TYPE					TOTAL
	VIOLENT	PROPERTY	FRAUD/ FORGERY	DRUGS	OTHER	
Anchorage	216	246	50	109	14	635
Barrow	23	13	1	9	5	51
Bethel	56	18	1	12	3	90
Fairbanks	123	118	15	39	14	309
Juneau	45	39	13	16	9	122
Kenai	35	19	5	10	6	75
Ketchikan	28	17	8	16	7	76
Kodiak	29	23	6	21	2	81
Kotzebue	26	11	7	6	2	52
Nome	39	13	2	4	0	58
Palmer	57	42	4	27	6	136
Sitka	13	3	0	7	0	23
Valdez	17	11	1	2	4	35
Wrangell/ Petersburg	21	7	3	8	0	39
TOTAL	728	580	116	286	72	1782

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	107	66	24	47	16	260
Second	88	37	10	19	7	161
Third	354	341	66	169	32	962
Fourth	179	136	16	51	17	399

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	532	628	499	558	+ 5	+ 12
Barrow	39	44	51	50	+ 28	- 2
Bethel	87	106	125	90	+ 3	- 28
Fairbanks	199	362	333	279	+ 40	- 16
Juneau	71	76	89	117	+ 65	+ 31
Kenai	117	82	97	98	- 16	+ 1
Ketchikan	48	65	74	69	+ 44	- 7
Kodiak	61	53	49	40	- 34	- 18
Kotzebue	25	44	68	66	+164	- 3
Nome	70	40	48	58	- 17	+ 21
Palmer	*	9	113	141	-	+ 25
Sitka	5	14	26	29	+480	+ 12
Valdez	*	*	*	2	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	6	16	23	-	+ 44
TOTAL	1254	1529	1588	1620	+ 29	+ 2

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	124	161	205	238	+ 92	+ 16
Second	134	128	167	174	+ 30	+ 4
Third	710	772	758	839	+ 18	+ 11
Fourth	286	468	458	369	+ 29	- 19

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
FELONY CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION								TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	AT/BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT		BETWEEN ARGN. AND TRIAL		COURT TRIALS		JURY TRIALS		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Anchorage	30	5	427	77	8	1	93	17	558
Barrow	0	-	37	74	0	-	13	26	50
Bethel	4	4	61	68	2	2	23	26	90
Fairbanks	14	5	200	72	6	2	59	21	279
Juneau	22	19	82	70	0	-	13	11	117
Kenai	7	7	83	85	0	-	8	8	98
Ketchikan	1	1	55	80	0	-	13	19	69
Kodiak	1	2	30	75	2	5	7	18	40
Kotzebue	4	6	60	91	0	-	2	3	66
Nome	1	2	51	88	2	3	4	7	58
Palmer	23	16	103	73	0	-	15	11	141
Sitka	4	14	22	76	0	-	3	10	29
Valdez	2	18	8	73	0	-	1	9	11
Wrangell/ Petersburg	6	26	13	57	0	-	4	17	23
TOTAL	119	7	1232	76	20	1	258	16	1629

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	33	14	172	72	0	-	33	14	238
Second	5	3	148	85	2	1	19	11	174
Third	63	7	651	77	10	1	124	15	848
Fourth	18	5	261	71	8	2	82	22	369

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 FY 85	FY 84 FY 85
Anchorage	1833	1356	1476	1593	- 13	+ 8
Barrow	15	15	21	30	+100	+ 43
Bethel	43	65	75	84	+ 95	+ 12
Fairbanks	389	521	537	470	+ 21	- 12
Juneau	118	121	122	142	+ 20	+ 16
Kenai	49	81	88	96	+ 96	+ 9
Ketchikan	84	92	120	142	+ 69	+ 18
Kodiak	36	54	55	37	+ 3	- 33
Kotzebue	13	42	47	51	+292	+ 9
Nome	64	75	63	67	+ 5	+ 6
Palmer	*	58	72	98	-	+ 36
Sitka	51	80	75	50	- 2	- 33
Valdez	*	*	*	15	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	16	29	36	-	+ 24
TOTAL	2695	2576	2780	2911	+ 8	+ 5

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	253	309	346	370	+ 46	+ 7
Second	92	132	131	148	+ 61	+ 13
Third	1918	1549	1691	1839	- 4	+ 9
Fourth	432	586	612	554	+ 28	- 9

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CASE TYPE							TOTAL
	ADOP-TION	ESTATES	SANITY	GUARD-IANSHIP	PROBATE WAIVER	PROTECT-TIVE	OTHER	
Anchorage	345	480	457	145	107	59	0	1593
Barrow	22	3	4	0	0	1	0	30
Bethel	33	18	29	1	0	3	0	84
Fairbanks	114	203	104	34	0	0	15	470
Juneau	43	48	36	12	0	0	3	142
Kenai	25	20	27	6	0	17	1	96
Ketchikan	35	43	46	6	0	7	5	142
Kodiak	2	17	4	3	0	11	0	37
Kotzebue	20	4	15	9	0	0	3	51
Nome	23	16	25	2	0	0	1	67
Palmer	33	26	19	16	0	0	4	98
Sitka	11	21	13	3	0	2	0	50
Valdez	5	4	2	3	0	1	0	15
Wrangell/ Petersburg	9	10	11	3	0	0	3	36
TOTAL	720	913	792	243	107	101	35	2911
% OF TOTAL	25	31	27	8	4	4	1	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	98	122	106	24	0	9	11	370
Second	65	23	44	11	0	1	4	148
Third	410	547	509	173	107	88	5	1839
Fourth	147	221	133	35	0	3	15	554

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
PROBATE CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82- FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE FY 82 - FY 85	% INCREASE FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	1679	1076	1008	1060	- 37	+ 5
Barrow	10	4	4	3	+ 70	- 25
Bethel	42	42	43	49	+ 17	+ 14
Fairbanks	321	392	407	492	+ 53	+ 21
Juneau	60	90	90	114	+ 90	+ 27
Kenai	41	40	26	23	- 44	- 12
Ketchikan	67	70	75	81	+ 21	+ 8
Kodiak	27	25	3	5	- 81	+ 67
Kotzebue	21	23	49	24	+ 14	- 51
Nome	79	58	36	35	- 56	- 3
Palmer	*	15	26	66	-	+154
Sitka	27	58	16	58	+115	+263
Valdez	*	*	*	7	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	11	14	43	-	+207
TOTAL	2374	1904	1797	2060	- 15	+ 15

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	154	229	195	296	+ 92	+ 52
Second	110	85	89	62	- 44	- 30
Third	1747	1156	1063	1161	- 34	+ 9
Fourth	363	434	450	541	+ 49	+ 20

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	5180	4917	5074	5013	- 3	- 1
Barrow	90	65	91	92	+ 2	+ 1
Bethel	117	160	136	147	+ 26	+ 8
Fairbanks	1295	1333	1489	1565	+ 21	+ 5
Juneau	416	465	490	629	+ 51	+ 28
Kenai	341	354	425	484	+ 42	+ 14
Ketchikan	355	321	332	340	- 4	+ 2
Kodiak	158	217	196	189	+ 20	- 4
Kotzebue	87	82	108	64	- 26	- 41
Nome	81	93	81	98	+ 21	+ 21
Palmer	*	314	442	578	-	+ 31
Sitka	137	145	152	107	- 22	- 30
Valdez	*	*	*	53	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	80	86	49	-	- 43
TOTAL	8257	8546	9102	9408	+ 14	+ 3

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	908	1011	1060	1125	+ 24	+ 6
Second	258	240	280	254	- 2	- 9
Third	5679	5802	6137	6317	+ 11	+ 3
Fourth	1412	1493	1625	1712	+ 21	+ 5

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CASE TYPE					TOTAL
	DIVORCE	DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE	RECIPROCAL SUPPORT	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	OTHER	
Anchorage	991	1694	1170	1082	76	5013
Barrow	7	13	15	54	3	92
Bethel	9	45	22	68	3	147
Fairbanks	331	629	193	351	61	1565
Juneau	108	253	87	137	44	629
Kenai	45	224	83	131	1	484
Ketchikan	71	131	60	73	5	340
Kodiak	50	63	20	50	6	189
Kotzebue	5	20	12	27	0	64
Nome	15	23	23	35	2	98
Palmer	77	228	85	164	24	578
Sitka	17	43	14	26	7	107
Valdez	8	14	8	22	1	53
Wrangell/ Petersburg	11	20	4	10	4	49
TOTAL	1745	3400	1796	2230	237	9408

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	207	447	165	246	60	1125
Second	27	56	50	116	5	254
Third	1171	2223	1366	1449	108	6317
Fourth	340	674	215	419	64	1712

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	4240	4194	4233	4219	-	-
Barrow	70	44	57	74	+ 6	+ 30
Bethel	110	154	136	147	+ 34	+ 8
Fairbanks	1110	1298	1418	1660	+ 50	+ 17
Juneau	371	362	452	531	+ 43	+ 17
Kenai	276	280	346	477	+ 73	+ 38
Ketchikan	362	260	350	280	- 23	- 20
Kodiak	129	169	172	163	+ 26	- 5
Kotzebue	76	70	124	87	+ 14	- 30
Nome	70	80	99	86	+ 23	- 13
Palmer	*	210	324	420	-	+ 30
Sitka	126	156	155	125	- 1	- 19
Valdez	*	*	*	68	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	37	73	49	-	- 33
TOTAL	6940	7314	7939	8386	+ 21	+ 6

* Not Yet A Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	859	815	1030	985	+ 15	- 4
Second	216	194	280	247	+ 14	- 12
Third	4645	4853	5075	5347	+ 15	+ 5
Fourth	1220	1452	1554	1807	+ 48	+ 16

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	STAGE OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL
	DISMISSED	DIVORCE HEARING	TRIAL	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	OTHER	
Anchorage	791	2018	125	455	830	4219
Barrow	4	17	0	53	0	74
Bethel	33	35	1	65	13	147
Fairbanks	463	777	21	220	179	1660
Juneau	22	308	4	111	86	531
Kenai	120	213	2	104	38	477
Ketchikan	52	135	4	60	29	280
Kodiak	24	91	3	40	5	163
Kotzebue	28	21	1	26	11	87
Nome	17	31	0	30	8	86
Palmer	90	210	3	69	48	420
Sitka	22	62	1	27	13	125
Valdez	16	26	0	23	3	68
Wrangell/ Petersburg	6	27	0	10	6	49
TOTAL	1688	3971	165	1293	1269	8386

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	102	532	9	208	134	985
Second	49	69	1	109	19	247
Third	1041	2558	133	691	924	5347
Fourth	496	812	22	285	192	1807

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE FY 82 - FY 85	% INCREASE FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	2377	2511	2892	3919	+ 65	+ 36
Barrow	23	35	31	36	+ 57	+ 16
Bethel	37	35	54	58	+ 57	+ 7
Fairbanks	568	656	645	792	+ 39	+ 23
Juneau	246	275	336	290	+ 18	- 14
Kenai	126	203	207	248	+ 97	+ 20
Ketchikan	94	92	147	139	+ 48	- 5
Kodiak	66	107	88	118	+ 79	+ 34
Kotzebue	13	32	76	32	+146	- 58
Nome	34	36	50	17	- 50	- 66
Palmer	*	92	139	229	-	+ 65
Sitka	45	49	61	71	+ 58	+ 16
Valdez	*	*	*	23	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	15	22	24	-	+ 9
TOTAL	3629	4138	4748	5996	+ 65	+ 26

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	385	431	566	524	+ 36	- 7
Second	70	103	157	85	+ 21	- 46
Third	2569	2913	3326	4537	+ 77	+ 36
Fourth	605	691	699	850	+ 40	+ 22

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CASE TYPE				TOTAL
	CIVIL DAMAGE	ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW	GENERAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	1458	159	1680	622	3919
Barrow	5	3	23	5	36
Bethel	30	0	22	6	58
Fairbanks	168	14	551	59	792
Juneau	63	37	186	4	290
Kenai	60	14	113	61	248
Ketchikan	87	8	28	16	139
Kodiak	40	1	55	22	118
Kotzebue	5	0	12	15	32
Nome	6	0	10	1	17
Palmer	118	9	91	11	229
Sitka	31	0	26	14	71
Valdez	6	2	9	6	23
Wrangell/ Petersburg	19	1	4	0	24
TOTAL	2096	248	2810	842	5996

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	200	46	244	34	524
Second	16	3	45	21	85
Third	1682	185	1948	722	4537
Fourth	198	14	573	65	850

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	2019	1745	1902	3356	+ 66	+ 76
Barrow	9	12	14	20	+122	+ 43
Bethel	23	40	41	77	+235	+ 88
Fairbanks	567	548	597	1021	+ 80	+ 71
Juneau	216	155	244	215	- 1	- 12
Kenai	143	136	126	259	+ 81	+106
Ketchikan	75	82	117	116	+ 55	- 1
Kodiak	65	56	74	61	- 6	- 18
Kotzebue	18	29	37	37	+106	-
Nome	26	42	62	27	+ 4	- 56
Palmer	*	37	84	99	-	+ 18
Sitka	39	43	54	58	+ 49	+ 7
Valdez	*	*	*	17	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	4	14	24	-	+ 71
TOTAL	3200	2929	3366	5387	+ 68	+ 60

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	330	284	429	413	+ 25	- 4
Second	53	83	113	84	+ 58	- 26
Third	2227	1974	2186	3792	+ 70	+ 73
Fourth	590	588	638	1098	+ 86	+ 72

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES
FY 85

COURT	STAGE OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL
	DISMISS	DEFAULT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	JURY TRIAL	COURT TRIAL	
Anchorage	2101	310	911	17	17	3356
Barrow	14	3	3	0	0	20
Bethel	67	5	2	0	3	77
Fairbanks	656	117	172	8	68	1021
Juneau	100	54	50	8	3	215
Kenai	121	19	96	3	20	259
Ketchikan	72	16	22	2	4	116
Kodiak	41	17	2	0	1	61
Kotzebue	34	1	2	0	0	37
Nome	20	1	5	0	1	27
Palmer	54	27	12	2	4	99
Sitka	35	2	20	1	0	58
Valdez	7	4	4	2	0	17
Wrangell/ Petersburg	8	10	5	1	0	24
TOTAL	3330	586	1306	44	121	5387

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	215	82	97	12	7	413
Second	68	5	10	0	1	84
Third	2324	377	1025	24	42	3792
Fourth	723	122	174	8	71	1098

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
CHILDREN'S MATTERS
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	524	593	637	442	- 16	- 31
Barrow	23	20	22	76	+230	+245
Bethel	67	85	104	90	+ 34	- 13
Fairbanks	206	237	534	312	+ 51	- 42
Juneau	66	51	73	28	- 58	- 62
Kenai	81	81	129	25	- 69	- 81
Ketchikan	129	163	158	116	- 10	- 27
Kodiak	32	16	37	30	- 6	- 19
Kotzebue	51	43	60	64	+ 25	+ 7
Nome	40	93	43	90	+125	+109
Palmer	*	25	71	107	-	+ 51
Sitka	51	65	76	71	+ 39	- 7
Valdez	*	*	*	7	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	25	40	71	-	+ 78
TOTAL	1270	1497	1984	1529	+ 20	- 23

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	246	304	347	286	+ 16	- 18
Second	114	156	125	230	+102	+ 84
Third	637	715	874	611	- 4	- 30
Fourth	273	322	638	402	+ 47	- 37

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

SUPERIOR COURTS
CHILDREN'S MATTERS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	418	443	463	298	- 29	- 36
Barrow	2	-	94	66	+2200	- 30
Bethel	73	94	95	102	+ 40	+ 7
Fairbanks	87	39	84	180	+107	+114
Juneau	37	38	23	-	-	-
Kenai	84	85	127	16	- 81	- 88
Ketchikan	73	23	78	70	- 4	- 10
Kodiak	25	14	33	21	- 16	- 36
Kotzebue	47	42	62	86	+ 83	+ 39
Nome	50	68	52	57	+ 14	+ 10
Palmer	*	20	58	99	-	+ 71
Sitka	16	19	66	64	+300	- 3
Valdez	*	*	*	3	-	-
Wrangell/ Petersburg	*	9	23	46	-	-100
TOTAL	912	894	1258	1108	+ 21	- 12

* NOT YET A SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	126	89	190	180	+ 43	- 5
Second	99	110	208	209	+111	-
Third	527	562	681	437	- 17	- 36
Fourth	160	133	179	282	+ 76	+ 58

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURT
(Higher Volume)

DISTRICT COURTS-HIGHER VOLUME CASELOAD FY 85

District court statistics are maintained separately for high and low volume courts. There are 22 higher volume courts (including all district courts located with a superior court). There are 38 magistrates in lower volume courts.

Total filings in higher volume district courts remained at the same level as FY 84. Total dispositions in these courts decreased by 4%. These percentage changes are somewhat misleading in that they reflect a 7% decrease in traffic citation dispositions. Traffic citations represent a large percentage of overall filings in the district court but account for a relatively small portion of the actual workload. Non-traffic citation filings (felony, misdemeanor, small claims and civil matters) actually increased 15% over FY 84 levels.

FELONY CASES[1]

Felony case filings in higher volume district courts increased by 11% in FY 85. Approximately half of the higher volume district courts reported significant (+10% or higher) increases in filings of felony cases in district court. Over half (54%) of all felony filings in these courts had a primary charge involving either violence or drugs.

MISDEMEANOR CASES

Misdemeanor case filings decreased by 4% during FY 85 in higher volume district courts. Misdemeanor dispositions remained constant with FY 84 levels in these courts.

Traffic-related offenses are the largest category of misdemeanor case filings (45%). These offenses include driving while intoxicated (DWI), reckless/negligent driving, driving on a revoked/suspended license, and several accident-related traffic offenses. Approximately 65% of this category consists of DWI cases (7,405 cases). Filings of DWI cases showed a 2% decrease from FY 84.

SMALL CLAIMS CASES

Statewide filings of small claims cases in higher volume district courts increased by 33% in FY 85. Over half of these courts reported increased small claims case filings in excess of 20% over FY 84 levels. Only six court sites reported significant decreases in small claims filings. Overall, dispositions of small claims cases increased by only 7% during FY 85. Thus, the large increase in small claims cases filed in FY 85 will be added to the pending workload of small claims cases to be handled in future years.

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[1]Felony cases are usually filed in the district court where a defendant makes his first appearance, and bail hearings and preliminary hearings may be held. Cases are later transferred to the superior court, which has full jurisdiction over felony cases.

OTHER CIVIL FILINGS

Other civil case filings (civil damages, debts, contracts and notes, etc.) increased by a surprising 85% during FY 85. Most of this increase is due to a 119% increase in other civil case filings in the Anchorage district court which distorts the statewide averages. The Anchorage increases involve about a 550 case increase in the normal cases in this category plus approximately 3,450 "student loan" cases that were filed during FY 85. Luckily, a recurrence of the large number of student loan filings is not anticipated and the cases filed in FY 85 require a minimum amount of judicial action to close out. Dispositions of these case types increased only 4% over FY 85 levels.

Effective July 1, 1985, the jurisdictional limits on civil case filings in the district court has been increased to $25,000 from its current $10,000 or $15,000 limits. Therefore, in years to come, the district courts will be working with potentially more complex civil litigation than in the past. The effect of workload in these courts is unknown but may be significant.

TRAFFIC CASES

Traffic citation cases are not reported to the administrative office until final disposition. Because of this, filings for traffic matters understate the actual workload in any given year. Wherever filing data is required to assess the overall workload of the courts, traffic disposition data has been substituted for traffic filing data in all tables and charts in this report.

Traffic disposition data is taken from automated files maintained by the Department of Public Safety. Court system personnel enter traffic citation disposition data into these files. On an annual basis, the court runs programs against these files to determine the number of traffic citations disposed of by each court location during the preceding year.

Overall, traffic citation filings (dispositions) decreased by 7% during FY 85. Many of the smaller courts reported increases in traffic dispositions. However, both Anchorage and Fairbanks reported significant decreases in traffic citation activity.

CHILDREN'S MATTERS

Although children's matters are normally within the jurisdiction of superior courts, some district court magistrates are empowered to act as standing masters for children's proceedings with the concurrence of the parties. The administrative office began collecting data on these cases in FY 84. There were only 49 such cases reported in FY 84 and that number decreased to 27 in FY 85.

DISTRICT COURTS
FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY82	FY83	FY84	FY85	% INCREASE FY82 - FY85	% INCREASE FY84 - FY85
Anchorage	58363	65272	71119	69992	+ 20	- 2
Barrow	608	369	527	574	- 6	+ 9
Bethel	1259	1250	1202	1585	+ 26	+ 32
Cordova	697	770	572	501	- 28	- 12
Dillingham	500	412	633	817	+ 63	+ 29
Fairbanks	18825	21668	20552	14660	- 22	- 29
Glennallen	894	700	731	882	- 1	+ 21
Homer	2352	2782	2492	2779	+ 18	+ 12
Juneau	8142	5102	6229	7714	- 5	+ 24
Kenai	5937	7090	8065	7570	+ 28	- 6
Ketchikan	3166	3443	4395	4669	+ 47	+ 6
Kodiak	2955	3307	3222	3733	+ 26	+ 16
Kotzebue	795	1003	1068	1109	+ 39	+ 4
Nome	769	712	684	814	+ 6	+ 19
Palmer	5473	7298	7609	11600	+112	+ 52
Petersburg	319	545	551	598	+ 87	+ 9
Seward	1863	2622	2321	3121	+ 68	+ 34
Sitka	2005	2337	2426	2371	+ 18	- 2
Tok	789	795	1050	1044	+ 32	- 1
Unalaska	517	470	377	429	- 17	+ 14
Valdez	997	1034	934	743	- 25	- 20
Wrangell	728	501	705	599	- 18	- 15
TOTAL	117953	129482	137464	137904	+ 17	-

TRAFFIC DISPOSITIONS USED AS FILINGS

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	14360	11928	14306	15951	+ 11	+ 11
Second	2172	2084	2279	2497	+ 15	+ 10
Third	80548	91757	98075	102167	+ 27	+ 4
Fourth	20873	23713	22804	17289	- 17	- 24

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CRIMINAL		OTHER		CIVIL		TOTAL
	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDRENS MATTERS	SMALL CLAIMS	OTHER CIVIL	
Anchorage*	779	8019	47142	*	6754	7298	69992
Barrow*	61	345	66	*	89	13	574
Bethel*	81	829	437	*	225	13	1585
Cordova	18	150	172	4	85	72	501
Dillingham	13	391	214	0	144	55	817
Fairbanks*	299	3283	8990	*	1475	613	14660
Glennallen	27	245	439	10	134	27	882
Homer	9	497	1701	0	364	208	2779
Juneau*	162	2243	3404	*	1671	234	7714
Kenai*	115	1995	4747	*	592	121	7570
Ketchikan*	97	1266	2909	*	323	74	4669
Kodiak*	102	710	2555	*	331	35	3733
Kotzebue*	89	776	159	*	60	25	1109
Nome*	56	395	190	*	168	5	814
Palmer*	126	2163	8049	*	1158	104	11600
Petersburg*	11	211	242	*	129	5	598
Seward	31	488	2416	8	146	32	3121
Sitka*	26	546	1577	*	186	36	2371
Tok	47	212	749	4	26	6	1044
Unalaska	22	142	168	1	41	55	429
Valdez*	32	252	387	*	65	7	743
Wrangell*	0	234	237	*	118	10	599
TOTAL	2203	25392	86950	27	14284	9048	137904

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	296	4500	8369	-	2427	359	15951
Second	206	1516	415	-	317	43	2497
Third	1274	15052	67990	23	9814	8014	102167
Fourth	427	4324	10176	4	1726	632	17289

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30
Traffic Depositions Used as Filings

DISTRICT COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	54062	64434	67468	61580	+ 14	- 9
Barrow	564	387	457	496	- 12	+ 9
Bethel	1145	1302	1154	1508	+ 32	+ 31
Cordova	643	646	564	475	- 26	- 16
Dillingham	442	460	666	758	+ 71	+ 14
Fairbanks	18198	21734	20107	13850	- 24	- 31
Glennallen	803	739	576	847	+ 5	+ 47
Homer	2150	2659	2361	2472	+ 15	+ 5
Juneau	7971	4522	5759	6719	- 16	+ 17
Kenai	5604	6894	7712	7525	+ 34	- 2
Ketchikan	3071	3179	4305	4471	+ 46	+ 4
Kodiak	2894	3120	3219	3764	+ 30	+ 17
Kotzebue	705	1055	992	1140	+ 62	+ 15
Nome	811	715	706	696	- 14	- 1
Palmer	4991	7241	7019	10684	+114	+ 52
Petersburg	323	420	512	619	+ 92	+ 21
Seward	1807	2592	2232	3108	+ 72	+ 39
Sitka	1904	2377	2474	2453	+ 29	- 1
Tok	802	757	1045	1004	+ 25	- 4
Unalaska	497	397	421	390	- 22	- 7
Valdez	958	947	878	799	- 17	- 9
Wrangell	684	522	678	509	- 26	- 25
TOTAL	111029	127099	131305	125869	+ 13	- 4

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	13953	11020	13728	14771	+ 6	+ 8
Second	2080	2157	2155	2332	+ 12	+ 8
Third	74851	90129	93116	92404	+ 23	- 1
Fourth	20145	23793	22306	16362	- 19	- 27

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS
FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 FY 85	FY 84 FY 85
Anchorage	16643	16464	17756	22850	+ 37	+ 29
Barrow	605	345	507	508	- 16	-
Bethel	1026	760	736	1148	+ 12	+ 56
Cordova	448	569	447	329	- 27	- 26
Dillingham	462	347	411	603	+ 31	+ 47
Fairbanks	5590	5776	5786	5670	+ 1	- 2
Glennallen	420	390	449	443	+ 5	- 1
Homer	973	1155	1058	1078	+ 11	+ 2
Juneau	3280	3387	3655	4310	+ 31	+ 18
Kenai	1831	2280	2847	2823	+ 54	- 1
Ketchikan	1715	1681	1831	1760	+ 3	- 4
Kodiak	1400	1542	1223	1178	- 16	- 4
Kotzebue	793	784	959	950	+ 20	- 1
Nome	558	509	544	624	+ 12	+ 15
Palmer	2388	2128	2639	3551	+ 49	+ 35
Petersburg	151	317	307	356	+136	+ 16
Seward	462	647	479	705	+ 53	+ 47
Sitka	1028	934	1010	794	- 23	- 21
Tok	96	239	291	295	+207	+ 1
Unalaska	351	376	288	261	- 26	- 9
Valdez	428	521	579	356	- 17	- 39
Wrangell	443	339	440	362	- 18	- 18
TOTAL	41091	41490	44242	50954	+ 24	+ 15

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	6617	6658	7243	7582	+ 15	+ 5
Second	1956	1638	2010	2082	+ 6	+ 4
Third	25806	26419	28176	34177	+ 32	+ 21
Fourth	6712	6775	6813	7113	+ 6	+ 4

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
NON-TRAFFIC DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	12342	15626	14105	14438	+ 17	+ 2
Barrow	561	363	437	430	- 23	- 2
Bethel	912	812	688	1071	+ 17	+ 56
Cordova	394	445	439	303	- 23	- 31
Dillingham	404	395	444	544	+ 35	+ 23
Fairbanks	4963	5842	5341	4860	- 2	- 9
Glennallen	329	429	294	408	+ 24	+ 39
Homer	771	1032	927	773	-	- 17
Juneau	3109	2807	3185	3315	+ 7	+ 4
Kenai	1498	2084	2494	2778	+ 85	+ 11
Ketchikan	1620	1417	1741	1562	- 4	- 10
Kodiak	1339	1355	1220	1209	- 10	- 1
Kotzebue	703	836	883	981	+ 40	+ 11
Nome	600	512	566	506	- 16	- 11
Palmer	1906	2071	2049	2635	+ 38	+ 29
Petersburg	155	192	268	377	+143	+ 41
Seward	406	617	390	692	+ 70	+ 77
Sitka	927	974	1058	876	- 6	- 17
Tok	109	201	286	255	+134	- 11
Unalaska	331	303	332	222	- 33	- 33
Valdez	389	434	523	412	+ 6	- 21
Wrangell	399	360	413	272	- 32	- 34
TOTAL	34167	39107	38083	38919	+ 14	+ 2

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	6210	5750	6665	6402	+ 3	- 4
Second	1864	1711	1886	1917	+ 3	+ 2
Third	20109	24791	23217	24414	+ 21	+ 5
Fourth	5984	6855	6315	6186	+ 3	- 2

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
FELONY CASE FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	634	829	710	779	+ 23	+ 10
Barrow	62	12	53	61	- 2	+ 15
Bethel	124	109	39	81	- 35	+108
Cordova	34	34	20	18	- 47	- 10
Dillingham	33	16	19	13	- 61	- 32
Fairbanks	246	281	304	299	+ 22	- 2
Glennallen	12	15	7	27	+125	+286
Homer	17	21	44	9	- 47	- 80
Juneau	129	135	144	162	+ 26	+ 13
Kenai	79	77	72	115	+ 46	+ 60
Ketchikan	149	149	86	97	- 35	+ 13
Kodiak	99	116	81	102	+ 3	+ 26
Kotzebue	31	54	73	89	+187	+ 22
Nome	17	41	57	56	+229	- 2
Palmer	79	170	131	126	+ 59	- 4
Petersburg	10	17	11	11	+ 10	-
Seward	27	43	33	31	+ 15	- 6
Sitka	58	35	24	26	- 55	+ 8
Tok	9	25	26	47	+422	+ 81
Unalaska	24	24	14	22	- 8	+ 57
Valdez	11	31	39	32	+191	- 18
Wrangell	28	10	6	0	-	-
TOTAL	1912	2244	1993	2203	+ 15	+ 11

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	374	346	271	296	- 21	+ 9
Second	110	107	183	206	+ 87	+ 13
Third	1049	1376	1170	1274	+ 21	+ 9
Fourth	379	415	369	427	+ 13	+ 16

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
COMPOSITION OF FELONY FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	VIOLENT	PROPERTY	FRAUD/ FORGERY	DRUGS	OTHER	TOTAL
Anchorage	265	304	61	134	15	779
Barrow	29	21	0	7	4	61
Bethel	55	10	0	16	0	81
Cordova	8	8	1	1	0	18
Dillingham	7	3	0	2	1	13
Fairbanks	102	114	13	36	34	299
Glennallen	12	6	8	1	0	27
Homer	6	3	0	0	0	9
Juneau	58	52	17	19	16	162
Kenai	43	38	3	17	14	115
Ketchikan	42	26	3	17	9	97
Kodiak	44	19	4	29	6	102
Kotzebue	48	28	4	7	2	89
Nome	35	17	0	3	1	56
Palmer	48	53	12	11	2	126
Petersburg	3	2	1	5	0	11
Seward	24	6	0	1	0	31
Sitka	12	9	0	2	3	26
Tok	6	21	0	1	19	47
Unalaska	6	10	2	4	0	22
Valdez	17	9	1	2	3	32
Wrangell	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	870	759	130	315	129	2203
% OF TOTAL	40	34	6	14	6	100

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	115	89	21	43	28	296
Second	112	66	4	17	7	206
Third	480	459	92	202	41	1274
Fourth	163	145	13	53	53	427

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
FELONY CASE DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	569	767	640	582	+ 2	- 9
Barrow	57	20	47	57	-	+ 21
Bethel	123	110	27	56	- 54	+107
Cordova	27	27	27	15	- 44	- 44
Dillingham	32	22	16	11	- 66	- 31
Fairbanks	211	288	273	289	+ 37	+ 6
Glennallen	11	14	5	14	+ 27	+ 180
Homer	16	19	39	14	- 12	- 64
Juneau	117	103	75	127	+ 9	+ 69
Kenai	75	73	70	100	+ 33	+ 43
Ketchikan	107	130	52	79	- 26	+ 52
Kodiak	96	90	95	97	+ 1	+ 2
Kotzebue	22	50	66	91	+314	+ 38
Nome	16	43	62	47	+194	- 24
Palmer	82	103	103	102	+ 24	- 1
Petersburg	11	9	11	17	+ 55	+ 55
Seward	21	33	34	34	+ 62	-
Sitka	48	32	19	22	- 54	+ 16
Tok	10	22	26	41	+310	+ 58
Unalaska	29	19	14	15	- 48	+ 7
Valdez	14	27	32	35	+150	- 9
Wrangell	22	15	1	2	- 91	+100
TOTAL	1716	2016	1734	1847	+ 8	+ 7

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	305	289	158	247	- 19	+ 56
Second	95	113	175	195	+105	+ 11
Third	972	1194	1075	1019	+ 5	- 5
Fourth	344	420	326	386	+ 12	+ 18

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
FELONY CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	DISMISSED	REDUCED TO MISDEMEANOR				TOTAL MISDEMEANOR DISPOSITIONS		FELONY* MOVED TO SUPERIOR COURT		TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
		AT/ BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT	BETWEEN ARRAIGNMENT AND TRIAL	COURT TRIAL	JURY TRIAL	#	%	#	%	
Anchorage	112	0	32	0	0	32	5	438	75	582
Barrow	15	1	8	0	1	10	18	32	56	57
Bethel	3	1	5	0	1	7	13	46	82	56
Cordova	8	0	2	0	0	2	13	5	33	15
Dillingham	5	1	0	0	0	1	9	5	45	11
Fairbanks	93	0	19	0	1	20	7	176	61	289
Glennallen	5	3	2	0	0	5	36	4	29	14
Homer	3	0	1	0	0	1	7	10	71	14
Juneau	31	0	9	0	0	9	7	87	69	127
Kenai	36	3	10	0	0	13	13	51	51	100
Ketchikan	22	1	4	0	0	5	6	52	66	79
Kodiak	51	1	2	0	0	3	3	43	44	97
Kotzebue	24	2	12	0	0	14	15	53	58	91
Nome	14	0	5	0	0	5	11	28	60	47
Palmer	51	2	11	1	0	14	14	37	36	102
Petersburg	13	0	0	0	0	0	-	4	24	17
Seward	18	2	0	0	0	2	6	14	41	34
Sitka	9	0	2	0	0	2	9	11	50	22
Tok	19	0	0	0	0	0	-	22	54	41
Unalaska	6	1	4	1	0	6	40	3	20	15
Valdez	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	35	100	35
Wrangell	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	50	2
TOTAL	539	18	128	2	3	151	8	1157	63	1847
% OF TOTAL	29	.9	6.9	.1	.1	8	/	63	/	100

*Indicted, information filed, preliminary hearing, etc.

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	76	1	15	0	0	16	6	155	63	247
Second	53	3	25	0	1	29	15	113	58	195
Third	295	13	64	2	0	79	8	645	63	1019
Fourth	115	1	24	0	2	27	7	244	63	386

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASE FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	7847	7886	8679	8019	+ 2	- 8
Barrow	425	277	354	345	- 19	- 3
Bethel	565	489	544	829	+ 47	+ 52
Cordova	297	313	241	150	- 49	- 38
Dillingham	315	247	260	391	+ 24	+ 50
Fairbanks	4025	4259	4062	3283	- 18	- 19
Glennallen	163	176	164	245	+ 50	+ 49
Homer	533	553	503	497	- 7	- 1
Juneau	1654	1830	2125	2243	+ 36	+ 6
Kenai	1268	1797	2315	1995	+ 57	- 14
Ketchikan	1189	1093	1269	1266	+ 6	-
Kodiak	1011	1233	880	710	- 30	- 19
Kotzebue	640	685	666	776	+ 21	+ 17
Nome	443	394	363	395	- 11	+ 9
Palmer	1059	1313	1808	2163	+104	+ 20
Petersburg	115	207	183	211	+ 83	+ 15
Seward	317	408	349	488	+ 54	+ 40
Sitka	686	629	790	546	- 20	- 31
Tok	70	186	226	212	+ 203	- 6
Unalaska	233	226	171	142	- 39	- 17
Valdez	196	215	306	252	+ 29	- 18
Wrangell	306	282	305	234	- 24	- 23
TOTAL	23357	24698	26563	25392	+ 9	- 4

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	3950	4041	4672	4500	+ 14	- 4
Second	1508	1356	1383	1516	-	+ 10
Third	13239	14367	15676	15052	+ 14	- 4
Fourth	4660	4934	4832	4324	- 7	- 11

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	VIOLENCE	THEFT/ FRAUD	ENVIRON-MENTAL	NUISANCE	ALCOHOL/ DRUGS	RESISTING THE LAW	VICE	TRAFFIC	OTHER	TOTAL
Anchorage	927	1245	74	851	132	169	256	4310	55	8019
Barrow	65	21	3	61	86	1	0	106	2	345
Bethel	154	32	193	213	94	7	0	120	16	829
Cordova	15	11	45	21	11	1	0	38	8	150
Dillingham	61	17	62	90	80	3	0	76	2	391
Fairbanks	258	540	91	602	289	30	9	1420	44	3283
Glennallen	37	46	20	51	25	3	0	63	0	245
Homer	58	15	31	54	60	21	0	257	1	497
Juneau	346	117	75	404	207	38	0	1033	23	2243
Kenai	103	92	400	177	122	19	0	961	121	1995
Ketchikan	72	57	180	288	216	20	0	429	4	1266
Kodiak	41	61	155	126	38	4	3	280	2	710
Kotzebue	149	68	14	158	222	12	1	138	14	776
Nome	66	40	19	96	90	1	0	82	1	395
Palmer	122	162	272	151	76	42	0	1326	12	2163
Petersburg	15	36	44	33	24	2	0	57	0	211
Seward	34	9	71	72	61	13	0	227	1	488
Sitka	48	44	103	64	48	6	0	230	3	546
Tok	22	24	17	29	15	0	0	101	4	212
Unalaska	30	13	23	38	5	3	0	30	0	142
Valdez	31	17	23	34	29	3	0	114	1	252
Wrangell	13	9	63	42	22	8	0	72	5	234
TOTAL	2667	2676	1978	3655	1952	406	269	11470	319	25392
% OF TOTAL	10.5	10.5	8	14	8	2	1	45	1	100

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	494	263	465	831	517	74	0	1821	35	4500
Second	280	129	36	315	398	14	1	326	17	1516
Third	1459	1688	1176	1665	639	281	259	7682	203	15052
Fourth	434	596	301	844	398	37	9	1641	64	4324

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	7593	8518	7228	8100	+ 7	+ 12
Barrow	377	298	357	285	- 24	- 20
Bethel	535	501	526	818	+ 53	+ 56
Cordova	272	301	261	127	- 53	- 51
Dillingham	281	257	281	334	+ 19	+ 19
Fairbanks	3548	4289	3738	2955	- 17	- 21
Glennallen	123	201	107	196	+ 59	+ 83
Homer	417	566	428	496	+ 19	+ 16
Juneau	1614	1676	1920	1797	+ 11	- 6
Kenai	763	1738	2131	1917	+151	- 10
Ketchikan	1134	1016	1137	1160	+ 2	+ 2
Kodiak	1052	1123	937	728	- 31	- 22
Kotzebue	607	666	696	752	+ 24	+ 8
Nome	406	413	399	349	- 14	- 13
Palmer	852	1205	1512	1879	+121	+ 24
Petersburg	132	158	185	171	+ 30	- 8
Seward	280	419	301	501	+ 79	+ 66
Sitka	677	657	765	636	- 6	- 17
Tok	84	156	212	180	+114	- 15
Unalaska	244	170	201	107	- 56	- 47
Valdez	175	225	270	212	+ 21	- 21
Wrangell	291	291	300	199	- 32	- 34
TOTAL	21457	24844	23892	23899	+ 11	-

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	3848	3798	4307	3963	+ 3	- 8
Second	1390	1377	1452	1386	-	- 5
Third	12052	14723	13657	14597	+ 21	+ 7
Fourth	4167	4946	4476	3953	- 5	- 12

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
MISDEMEANOR CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION								TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	AT/BEFORE ARRAIGNMENT		BETWEEN ARGN. AND TRIAL		COURT TRIALS		JURY TRIALS		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Anchorage	2574	32	5301	65	45	1	180	2	8100
Barrow	39	14	237	83	0	-	9	3	285
Bethel	267	33	524	64	11	1	16	2	818
Cordova	55	43	63	50	3	2	6	5	127
Dillingham	97	29	219	66	6	2	12	3	334
Fairbanks	1222	41	1651	56	22	1	60	2	2955
Glennallen	131	67	62	32	0	-	3	1	196
Homer	236	47	252	51	2	.4	6	1	496
Juneau	999	56	681	38	91	5	26	1	1797
Kenai	703	37	1189	62	5	.3	20	1	1917
Ketchikan	623	54	493	43	28	2	16	1	1160
Kodiak	270	37	436	60	5	1	17	2	728
Kotzebue	222	29	524	70	1	.1	5	.6	752
Nome	103	29	243	70	0	-	3	1	349
Palmer	382	20	1451	77	12	1	34	2	1879
Petersburg	87	51	79	46	3	2	2	1	171
Seward	271	54	220	44	2	.4	8	1.5	501
Sitka	286	45	338	53	2	.3	10	1.6	636
Tok	84	47	94	52	0	-	2	1	180
Unalaska	44	41	62	58	0	-	1	1	107
Valdez	89	42	120	56.6	1	.5	2	.9	212
Wrangell	106	53	89	45	0	-	4	2	199
TOTAL	8890	37	14328	60	239	1	442	2	23899
% OF TOTAL	37	/	60	/	1	/	2	/	100

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	2101	53	1680	42	124	3	58	2	3963
Second	364	26	1004	72	1	.07	17	1	1386
Third	4852	33	9375	64	81	1	289	2	14597
Fourth	1573	40	2269	57	33	1	78	2	3953

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASE FILINGS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	5306	4918	5041	6754	+ 27	+ 34
Barrow	104	43	74	89	- 14	+ 20
Bethel	321	154	134	225	- 30	+ 68
Cordova	63	83	105	85	+ 35	- 19
Dillingham	72	57	45	144	+100	+220
Fairbanks	767	777	946	1475	+ 92	+ 56
Glennallen	224	174	253	134	- 40	- 47
Homer	201	391	312	364	+ 81	+ 17
Juneau	1273	1133	1159	1671	+ 31	+ 44
Kenai	405	308	426	592	+ 46	+ 39
Ketchikan	328	311	417	323	- 2	- 23
Kodiak	240	156	222	331	+ 38	+ 49
Kotzebue	119	43	219	60	- 50	- 73
Nome	81	67	108	168	+107	+ 56
Palmer	841	578	651	1158	+ 38	+ 78
Petersburg	19	90	109	129	+579	+ 18
Seward	80	162	68	146	+ 83	+115
Sitka	241	226	152	186	- 23	+ 22
Tok	10	21	22	26	+160	+ 18
Unalaska	34	59	48	41	+ 21	- 15
Valdez	118	172	101	65	- 45	- 36
Wrangell	75	46	123	118	+ 57	- 4
TOTAL	10922	9969	10735	14284	+ 31	+ 33

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1936	1806	1960	2427	+ 25	+ 24
Second	304	153	401	317	+ 4	- 21
Third	7584	7058	7272	9814	+ 29	+ 35
Fourth	1098	952	1102	1726	+ 57	+ 57

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASE DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	2392	3358	4296	3692	+ 54	- 14
Barrow	117	33	21	70	- 40	+233
Bethel	236	194	122	187	- 21	+ 53
Cordova	56	48	98	82	+ 46	- 16
Dillingham	77	74	60	135	+ 75	+125
Fairbanks	712	768	855	1075	+ 51	+ 26
Glennallen	179	196	158	174	- 3	+ 10
Homer	177	302	293	178	-	- 39
Juneau	1141	839	1003	1225	+ 7	+ 22
Kenai	585	212	268	630	+ 8	+135
Ketchikan	338	181	441	279	- 17	- 37
Kodiak	148	117	162	355	+140	+119
Kotzebue	74	118	118	114	+ 54	- 3
Nome	168	50	91	102	- 39	+ 12
Palmer	678	709	410	581	- 14	+ 42
Petersburg	11	25	69	178	+1518	+158
Seward	73	138	34	120	+ 64	+253
Sitka	170	234	234	180	+ 6	- 23
Tok	8	16	28	22	+175	- 21
Unalaska	25	28	60	44	+ 76	- 27
Valdez	114	95	112	158	+ 39	+ 41
Wrangell	75	52	107	69	- 8	- 36
TOTAL	7554	7787	9040	9650	+ 28	+ 7

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1735	1331	1854	1931	+11	+ 4
Second	359	201	230	286	- 20	+ 24
Third	4504	5277	5951	6149	+ 37	+ 3
Fourth	956	978	1005	1284	+ 34	+ 28

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
SMALL CLAIMS CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION					TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	DISMISS	DEFAULT JUDGMENT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	TRIAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	1120	1578	745	41	208	3692
Barrow	50	9	2	9	0	70
Bethel	104	39	32	12	0	187
Cordova	51	25	1	1	4	82
Dillingham	63	67	3	2	0	135
Fairbanks	584	282	24	148	37	1075
Glennallen	104	48	15	5	2	174
Homer	99	60	2	17	0	178
Juneau	622	451	38	72	42	1225
Kenai	380	108	6	134	2	630
Ketchikan	138	89	14	38	0	279
Kodiak	260	68	1	26	0	355
Kotzebue	78	20	8	8	0	114
Nome	51	22	4	25	0	102
Palmer	205	271	6	66	33	581
Petersburg	85	49	16	14	14	178
Seward	60	49	10	1	0	120
Sitka	106	45	15	13	1	180
Tok	4	7	3	6	2	22
Unalaska	31	4	0	8	1	44
Valdez	128	16	5	9	0	158
Wrangell	36	21	4	6	2	69
TOTAL	4359	3328	954	661	348	9650
% OF TOTAL	45	34	10	7	4	100%

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	987	655	87	143	59	1931
Second	179	51	14	42	0	286
Third	2501	2294	794	310	250	6149
Fourth	692	328	59	166	39	1284

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASE FILINGS*

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	2856	2831	3326	7298	+156	+119
Barrow	14	13	26	13	- 7	- 50
Bethel	16	8	19	13	- 19	- 32
Cordova	54	90	81	72	+ 33	- 11
Dillingham	42	27	77	55	+ 31	- 29
Fairbanks	552	459	474	613	+ 11	+ 29
Glennallen	21	25	21	27	+ 29	+ 29
Homer	222	190	199	208	- 6	+ 5
Juneau	224	289	227	234	+ 4	+ 3
Kenai	79	98	34	121	+ 53	+256
Ketchikan	49	128	59	74	+ 51	+ 25
Kodiak	50	37	40	35	- 30	- 12
Kotzebue	3	2	1	25	+733	+2400
Nome	17	7	16	5	- 71	- 69
Palmer	409	67	49	104	- 75	+112
Petersburg	7	3	4	5	- 29	+ 25
Seward	38	34	25	32	- 16	+ 28
Sitka	43	44	44	36	- 16	- 18
Tok	7	7	5	6	- 14	+ 20
Unalaska	60	67	47	55	- 8	+ 17
Valdez	103	103	122	7	- 93	- 94
Wrangell	34	1	6	10	- 71	+ 67
TOTAL	4900	4530	4902	9048	+ 85	+ 85

*This chart includes those Superior Court Civil matters not reported on Superior Court charts

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	357	465	340	359	-	+ 6
Second	34	22	43	43	+ 26	-
Third	3934	3569	4021	8014	+104	+ 99
Fourth	575	474	498	632	+ 10	+ 27

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
COMPOSITION OF FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	CIVIL DAMAGE	GENERAL/ OTHER	DIVORCE, ETC.*	TOTAL
Anchorage	620	6678	N/A	7298
Barrow	4	9	N/A	13
Bethel	1	12	N/A	13
Cordova	9	0	63	72
Dillingham	4	0	51	55
Fairbanks	63	550	N/A	613
Glennallen	2	0	25	27
Homer	2	7	199	208
Juneau	13	221	N/A	234
Kenai	8	113	N/A	121
Ketchikan	58	16	N/A	74
Kodiak	2	33	N/A	35
Kotzebue	0	25	N/A	25
Nome	0	5	N/A	5
Palmer	48	56	N/A	104
Petersburg	5	0	N/A	5
Seward	0	4	28	32
Sitka	5	31	N/A	36
Tok	2	0	4	6
Unalaska	2	5	48	55
Valdez	2	5	N/A	7
Wrangell	10	0	N/A	10
TOTAL	860	7770	418	9048
% OF TOTAL	9	86	5	100

*Superior Court matters not reported on a Superior Court Chart

N/A - NOT APPLICABLE - REPORTED IN SUPERIOR COURT

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	91	268	N/A	359
Second	4	39	N/A	43
Third	699	6901	414	8014
Fourth	66	562	4	632

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
OTHER CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITIONS

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	1788	2983	1941	2064	+ 15	+ 6
Barrow	10	12	12	18	+ 80	+ 50
Bethel	18	7	13	10	- 44	- 23
Cordova	39	69	53	79	+103	+ 49
Dillingham	14	42	74	63	+350	- 15
Fairbanks	492	497	475	541	+ 10	+ 14
Glennallen	16	18	16	21	+ 31	+ 31
Homer	161	145	167	85	- 47	- 49
Juneau	237	189	187	166	- 30	- 11
Kenai	75	61	44	131	+ 75	+198
Ketchikan	41	90	111	44	+ 7	- 60
Kodiak	43	25	26	29	- 33	+ 12
Kotzebue	-	2	3	24	-	+700
Nome	10	6	14	8	- 20	- 43
Palmer	294	54	24	73	- 75	+204
Petersburg	1	-	3	11	+1000	+267
Seward	32	27	17	31	- 3	+ 82
Sitka	32	51	40	38	+ 19	- 5
Tok	7	7	5	8	+ 14	+ 60
Unalaska	33	86	45	56	+ 70	+ 24
Valdez	86	87	107	7	- 92	- 93
Wrangell	11	2	5	2	- 82	- 96
TOTAL	3440	4460	3382	3509	+ 2	+ 4

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	322	332	332	261	- 19	- 21
Second	20	20	20	50	+150	+150
Third	2581	2581	3597	2639	+ 2	- 27
Fourth	517	517	511	559	+ 8	+ 9

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
CIVIL CASES
DISPOSITION STAGES

FY 85

COURT	STAGES OF DISPOSITION						TOTAL DISPOSITIONS
	DISMISS	DEFAULT JUDGMENT	SUMMARY JUDGMENT	JURY TRIAL	COURT TRIAL	OTHER	
Anchorage	674	980	336	7	28	39	2064
Barrow	3	9	2	0	0	4	18
Bethel	6	2	1	0	1	0	10
Cordova	11	17	3	0	0	48	79
Dillingham	15	2	0	0	1	45	63
Fairbanks	308	150	68	1	4	10	541
Glennallen	4	0	0	0	0	17	21
Homer	10	4	3	0	43	25	85
Juneau	49	99	4	4	0	10	166
Kenai	83	12	26	1	6	3	131
Ketchikan	21	10	8	0	4	1	44
Kodiak	15	13	0	0	1	0	29
Kotzebue	24	0	0	0	0	0	24
Nome	4	2	0	0	1	1	8
Palmer	23	46	1	0	0	3	73
Petersburg	8	3	0	0	0	0	11
Seward	4	1	0	0	0	26	31
Sitka	18	10	3	0	6	1	38
Tok	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
Unalaska	11	1	0	0	0	44	56
Valdez	2	2	3	0	0	0	7
Wrangell	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
TOTAL	1293	1365	458	13	95	285	3509
% OF TOTAL	37	39	13	.3	2.7	8	100

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	96	124	15	4	10	12	261
Second	31	11	2	0	1	5	50
Third	852	1078	372	8	79	250	2639
Fourth	314	152	69	1	5	18	559

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
TRAFFIC CASES
DISPOSITIONS*

FY 82 - FY 85

COURT	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	
					FY 82 - FY 85	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage	41720	48808	53363	47142	+ 13	- 12
Barrow	3	24	20	66	+2100	+230
Bethel	233	490	466	437	+ 88	- 6
Cordova	249	201	125	172	- 31	+ 38
Dillingham	38	65	222	214	+474	- 4
Fairbanks	13235	15892	14766	8990	- 32	- 39
Glennallen	474	310	282	439	- 7	+ 56
Homer	1379	1627	1434	1701	+ 23	+ 19
Juneau	4862	1715	2574	3404	- 30	+ 32
Kenai	4106	4810	5218	4747	+ 16	- 9
Ketchikan	1451	1762	2564	2909	+100	+ 13
Kodiak	1555	1765	1999	2555	+ 64	+ 28
Kotzebue	2	219	109	159	+7850	+ 46
Nome	211	203	140	190	- 10	+ 36
Palmer	3085	5170	4970	8049	+161	+ 62
Petersburg	168	228	244	242	+ 44	- 1
Seward	1401	1975	1842	2416	+ 72	+ 31
Sitka	977	1403	1416	1577	+ 61	+ 11
Tok	693	556	759	749	+ 8	- 1
Unalaska	166	94	89	168	+ 1	+ 89
Valdez	569	513	355	387	- 32	+ 9
Wrangell	285	162	265	237	- 17	- 11
TOTAL	76862	87992	93222	86950	+ 13	- 7

*Tickets counted after dispositions only. No record of current filings

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	7743	5270	7063	8369	+ 8	+ 18
Second	216	446	269	415	+ 92	+ 54
Third	54742	65338	69899	67990	+ 24	- 3
Fourth	14161	16938	15991	10178	- 28	- 36

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS
TRAFFIC CASES
COMPOSITION OF DISPOSITION

FY 85

COURT	EQUIPMENT	SPEEDING	SIGNS/ CONTROL DEVICES	OTHER MOVING	LICENSE RESTRIC-TION	REGIS-TRATION/ TITLE	OTHER	UNKNOWN*	TOTAL
Anchorage	5348	13549	6106	5017	3352	7846	4393	1531	47142
Barrow	1	14	13	1	20	0	17	0	66
Bethel	21	26	9	17	27	49	64	224	437
Cordova	6	26	25	0	7	45	15	48	172
Dillingham	7	2	20	8	2	14	29	132	214
Fairbanks	823	2936	935	860	1066	945	1424	1	8990
Glennallen	14	224	5	17	15	12	27	125	439
Homer	349	503	24	59	103	118	134	411	1701
Juneau	197	1226	256	184	309	425	189	618	3404
Kenai	227	1658	129	249	296	578	526	1084	4747
Ketchikan	515	1050	114	130	235	528	126	211	2909
Kodiak	25	540	151	75	193	281	128	1162	2555
Kotzebue	0	11	5	3	6	6	38	90	159
Nome	1	17	28	16	9	7	24	88	190
Palmer	338	3502	484	497	315	1034	559	1320	8049
Petersburg	10	111	15	18	28	19	22	19	242
Seward	31	1027	44	54	78	82	109	991	2416
Sitka	523	154	130	73	198	176	117	206	1577
Tok	43	320	10	15	39	33	51	238	749
Unalaska	5	14	5	4	6	21	18	95	168
Valdez	56	83	16	17	21	39	46	109	387
Wrangell	5	44	11	10	23	8	15	121	237
TOTAL	8545	27037	8535	7324	6348	12266	8071	8824	86950
% OF TOTAL	10	31	10	8	7	14	9	10	100

*Not entered into computer, no positive I.D.

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First	1250	2585	526	415	793	1156	469	1175	8369
Second	2	42	46	20	35	13	79	178	415
Third	6406	21128	7009	5997	4388	10070	5984	7008	67990
Fourth	887	3282	954	892	1132	1027	1539	463	10176

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS CHILDREN'S MATTERS FILINGS

FY 84 - FY 85

COURT			FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	FY 84 - FY 85
Anchorage*						
Barrow*						
Bethel*						
Cordova			10	4		- 60
Dillingham				0		
Fairbanks*						
Glennallen			4	10		+150
Homer				0		
Juneau*						
Kenai						
Ketchikan*						
Kodiak*						
Kotzebue*						
Nome*						
Palmer				*		
Petersburg*						
Seward			4	8		+100
Sitka*						
Tok			12	4		- 67
Unalaska			8	1		- 88
Valdez			11	*		
Wrangell*						
TOTAL			49	27		- 45

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First						
Second						
Third			37	23		- 38
Fourth			12	4		- 67

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURTS CHILDREN'S MATTERS DISPOSITONS

FY 84 - FY 85

COURT			FY 84	FY 85	% INCREASE	FY 84 FY 85
Anchorage*						
Barrow*						
Bethel*						
Cordova				0		
Dillingham			13	1		- 92
Fairbanks*						
Glennallen			8	3		- 62
Homer						
Juneau*						
Kenai*						
Ketchikan*						
Kodiak*						
Kotzebue*						
Nome*						
Palmer				*		
Petersburg*						
Seward			4	6		+ 50
Sitka*						
Tok			15	4		- 73
Unalaska			12	0		
Valdez			2	*		
Wrangell*						
TOTAL			54	14		- 74

*Children's Matters reported in Superior Court

BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

First						
Second						
Third			39	10		- 74
Fourth			15	4		- 53

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

DISTRICT COURT
(Lower Volume)

DISTRICT COURTS-LOWER VOLUME CASELOAD FY 85

Alaska's lower volume district courts experienced a 22% increase in case filings in FY 85. For courts located in the first, third and fourth judicial districts, increased filings were reported in all case categories except felonies. Second district courts reported a 28% decrease in filings.

Dispositions in these courts increased by 14%.

Filings of misdemeanors in these courts increased by 14% overall. First, third and fourth district courts reported 31%, 23% and 20% increases respectively, while second district sites reported a 28% decrease in misdemeanor filings.

Increases in civil case filings (almost all small claims cases) in these courts were reported in all districts. First and fourth district courts reported increases exceeding 100% during FY 85. Significant increases in civil case dispositions were also reported by these courts.

Traffic citation dispositions increased by 10% in these courts during FY 85.

Filings of emergency children's matters were up significantly in both the first and fourth districts in FY 85. Likewise, dispositions of children's matters were up in these two districts.

LOW VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS
FILINGS

FY 85

JUDICIAL DISTRICT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
First	39	832	379	39	187	1476
Second	2	288	9	0	1	300
Third	16	483	360	9	61	929
Fourth	49	712	1079	32	465	2337
TOTAL	106	2315	1827	80	714	5042
% OF TOTAL	2	46	36	2	14	100

LOW VOLUME DISTRICT COURTS
DISPOSITIONS

FY 85

JUDICIAL DISTRICT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
First	7	562	379	17	106	1071
Second	4	222	9	0	0	235
Third	9	396	360	3	45	813
Fourth	37	610	1079	8	249	1983
TOTAL	57	1790	1827	28	400	4102
% OF TOTAL	1	44	44	1	10	100

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Angoon	3	57	0	0	10	70
Craig	12	311	252	8	36	619
Haines	13	121	58	12	89	293
Hoonah	0	100	0	5	4	109
Kake	9	148	15	11	0	183
Skagway	2	18	44	0	32	96
Yakutat	0	73	10	3	5	91
TOTAL	39	832	379	39	187	1476
% OF TOTAL	3%	56%	26%	3%	12%	100%
Pelican	0	4	0	0	11	15

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Angoon	1	46	0	0	2	49
Craig	4	290	252	8	31	585
Haines	0	100	58	0	34	192
Hoonah	0	90	0	0	1	91
Kake	0	0	15	9	0	24
Skagway	2	21	44	0	34	101
Yakutat	0	13	10	0	0	23
TOTAL	7	562	379	17	106	1071
% OF TOTAL	.4%	52%	35%	1.6%	10%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

Pelican	0	2	0	0	4	6

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS

FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Gambell	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Noorvik	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pt. Hope	0	0	1	0	0	1
Savoonga	0	59	0	0	0	59
Selawik	2	70	2	0	1	75
Shungnak	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unalakleet	2	159	6	0	0	167
TOTAL	2	288	9	0	1	300
% OF TOTAL	.6%	96%	3%	-	.3%	100%

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS

FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Gambell	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiana	0	0	0	0	0	0
Noorvik	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pt. Hope	0	0	1	0	0	1
Savoonga	0	60	0	0	0	60
Selawik	2	8	2	0	0	12
Shungnak	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unalakleet	2	154	6	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	222	9	0	0	235
% OF TOTAL	2%	94%	4%	-	-	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS
FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Cold Bay	2	72	41	1	13	129
Naknek	10	251	200	8	41	510
Sand Point	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seldovia	0	69	63	0	7	139
St. Paul Island	2	82	2	0	0	86
Whittier	2	9	54	0	0	65
TOTAL	16	483	360	9	61	929
% OF TOTAL	2%	52%	39%	1%	6%	100%

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS
FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Cold Bay	1	63	41	3	9	117
Naknek	6	207	200	0	28	441
Sand Point	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seldovia	0	69	63	0	8	140
St. Paul Island	2	57	2	0	0	61
Whittier	0	0	54	0	0	54
TOTAL	9	396	360	3	45	813
% OF TOTAL	1%	49%	44%	.4%	5.5%	100%

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1 — JUNE 30

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT FILINGS
FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Aniak	1	92	1	14	129	237
Delta Junction	17	82	537	10	100	746
Emmonak	1	84	0	2	36	123
Ft. Yukon	NO RECORDS SENT					
Galena	9	96	11	6	49	171
Healy	3	105	260	0	21	389
Hooper Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0
McGrath	3	55	6	0	13	77
Mekoryuk	0	2	0	0	0	2
Mt. Village	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nenana	11	80	235	0	88	414
Quinhagak	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Mary	0	65	0	0	29	94
Tanana	4	51	29	0	0	84
TOTAL	49	712	1079	32	465	2337
% OF TOTAL	2%	30%	46%	1%	20%	100%

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS
FY 85

COURT	FELONY	MISDE-MEANOR	TRAFFIC	CHILDREN'S MATTERS	CIVIL	TOTAL
Aniak	1	88	1	0	95	185
Delta Junction	9	102	537	0	71	719
Emmonak	1	72	0	0	1	74
Ft. Yukon	NO RECORDS SENT					
Galena	10	91	11	7	27	146
Healy	0	78	260	0	12	350
Hooper Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0
McGrath	7	51	6	1	8	73
Mekoryuk	0	1	0	0	0	1
Mt. Village	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nenana	5	58	235	0	27	325
Quinhagak	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. Mary	0	16	0	0	8	24
Tanana	4	53	29	0	0	86
TOTAL	37	610	1079	8	249	1983
% OF TOTAL	2%	31%	54%	1%	12%	100%